

Tuesday October 22 1996

INCELLARO

John Richardson's new biography

So just who is Caprice Bourret?

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Education The rogue operators selling British degrees overseas

Murdered headteacher's widow attracts widespread support for law and order and education measures to make good citizens of young

Moral crusade gathers pace

Parties sign up to manifesto of civic values

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HE Conservaives, Labour and Liberal Democrats began a stampede yesterday to claim they were closest to the moral agenda for the regeneration of Britain set out by the widow of Philip Lawrence, the murdered headteacher.

On a day which saw politics, morality and religion mixing unhappily together. the parties vied with one another to lead Frances Law-rence's national movement to renew civic values among Britain's young. The Conservatives insisted

that while Labour spoke about filling the moral vac-uum, the Government was putting into place education and law and order measures to meet her concerns.

Many of them will be central to tomorrow's Queen's Speech, a Central Office spokesman said.

Labour claimed Tony Blair had been espousing many of the views on civic regeneration well before he became leader, and that many of Mrs Lawrence's education plans had been included in a document produced by the shadow education secretary, David Blunkett, last December.
In her "manifesto"

Lawrence called for: ☐ A nationwide movement to banish violence and encour-

age civic values

A ban on the sale of combat knives

□ New primary school courses in good citizenship □ A higher status in society for teachers and the police

Governments to end neutrality on the concept of the

family Children to be involved in family life, not leading separate lives within the home; ☐ An emphasis in teaching on effort, earnestness and

committed to a ban on knives but the Conservatives said such a ban was impossible as it would affect kitchen knives and the labour claims Catholic wets, page 2; Blessing for minimum pay, page 4;

Today is a time for other | Porter, page 9

people to speak. I have nothing further to say at the

noment." Gillian Shephard, Education Secretary, denied that public opinion was driving the politicians into action. Her Labour shadow, David Blunkett, said: "Our party's intention is to build on the examples of excellence in personal and social education to ensure that the teaching of citizenship is central to the development of young people from the sarliest appropriate

Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman Alex Carlile warned against being patronising to young people and his colleague Charles Kennedy warned that the action taken by Mrs Lawrence and the Dunblane parents was a comment on the government of

But the chorus of support from the politicians provoked scepticism from the leader of Britain's second largest teaching union.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said teachers wanted urgent action to crack down on indiscipline in schools instead of worthy moralising from political

Teachers have had enough of endless discussions with of endless discussions with parents over violent and disruptive youngsters," he said.
They would all support Mrs
Lawrence's basic message,
but they could not wait for a
political campaign for restoring social values to bear fruit.
"Schools will not be able to
begin to turn the situation

begin to turn the situation around unless and until they convey a much greater sense of urgency by excluding violent, disruptive youngsters much more quickly."

Doug McAvoy, general sec-retary of the National Union of Teachers, said Mrs Lawrence's campaign would be on effort, earnestness and excellence

Differences emerged on the issue of knives. Labour is issue of knives. Labour is issue of knives. Labour is that "society does not exist."

and Stanley knives.

Mrs Lawrence said simply:

Leader comment, page thugo Young and Henry Leader comment, page 8;



Frances Lawrence at her London home yesterday, as politicans vied to support her 'manifesto'

Frances Lawrence's manifesto faces a harsh test-bed at The Ridings school on the Ovenden estate in Halifax. Headteacher Karen Stansfield takes early retirement in December, blaming stress; teachers feel that one in 10 of the 600 pupils are such a threat that they should be excluded. Staff ballot later this month on a strike if there is no crackdown; governors are holding emergency talks with Calderdale education authority. Brian Garvey, Halifax teacher and executive member of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers details the realities his colleagues face.

ROM the start of the school day, every day, teachers at the Ridings face disruption from a group of pupils, a minority but now a considerable number. They get verbal abuse — they are reg-ularly told where to go in no uncertain terms. They get physical abuse — they have been stoned and punched. The police have been called in twice in the last week.

"The pupils involved regularly refuse to do work. What do you do when that happens? Put them in detention? They say: well, I'm not coming to do detention. You write to the parents (and the vast majority of parents are very supportive). Their parents say: No, that's right. They're not coming in to do detention.

"The problem is simply that a small number of disruptive pupils have been allowed to stay in school for too long. They consistently set a bad example to the others, most of whom only want to behave and to get on with their schooling. These ones show that you can tangle with staff and get away with it, and they draw in normally misbehave. Verbal abuse from them is an everyday thing and physical abuse is getting commoner.

"Last week, stones were thrown at a teacher (which has happened before). Another was punched on the

arms and chest. And a fe-male member of staff had her bottom pinched by a pupil. That may sound like the sort of thing people laugh at, but here it is sex-

ual assault.
"The school consistently
does its best to try to sort things out. It has adopted a Discipline for Learning' system, with close supervision of pupils at lunchtimes, a lot of effort from staff, the use of detention and encouragement through merit points and other rewards. But this group just hasn't responded to that at all. If they had been taken out of the school in time, we

wouldn't have come to this. "Why do they even bother to come to school? I think it's almost a case of them turning up to have what they think is fun.

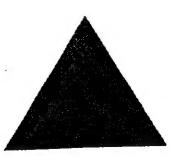
"Staff have meanwhile lost almost all the sanctions they used to have, through the Government's steady withdrawal of them over the last 17 years. Lessons the pupils might be expected to enjoy, like games or PE, are no better.

"The Ridings suffers from a lack of effective boundaries and both truants and cross the playing fields. Again, staff have had verbal abuse from members of the public when they are trying to take games.
"The situation got worse

when the school started tak-ing in pupils from Mixen-Turn to page 2, column 8



Peace, love, flowers.



Beer.



Bass BEST SELLING PREMIUM CASK ALE SINCE 1777

Bitter taste lingers as growers squeeze last drop from Chablis

Paul Webster in Chablis

HE annual Burgundy miracle of the multiplymiracte of the mutually-ing Chablis is about to take place: 20 times more wine than a quarter of a cen-tury ago is fermenting in bar-rels and vats, giving rise to a whignering commain accusrels and vats, giving rise to a whispering campaign accusing growers of overplanting. Britain, the biggest importer, spends about £15 million a year on its favourite dry white, but the ever-expanding crop has raised questions about whether it all merits the Chablis label. Demand owes much to Brit-

ain's wine bar cult where the drink is often regarded as an outward sign of Yuppie achievement equivalent to the mobile phone. After astute promotion over 20 years, Britain takes 27 per cent of Chablis's exports and Ger.

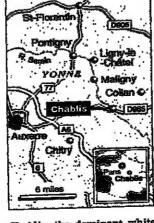
In the mid-1970s, when dairy farming dominated, there were only 1,750 acres of grows Pouilly-Fuisse near the mobile phone. After astute promotion over 20 years, Britain takes 27 per cent of Chablis's exports and Ger.

In the mid-1970s, when dairy farming dominated, dairy fa

many and Japan are following that example. But greater pressures for bigger output have come from French hypermarkets, whose autumn Foire des Vins have forced growers to squeeze vineyards beyond traditional

Rival growers are suspi-cious that Chablis, at the northern end of Burgundy, is cutting corners to meet the demand. While production limits. elsewhere in Bourgogne has dropped because of European Union restrictions and strict quality controls, the Yonne departement around Chablis continues to set records.





in 1995, would be at least equalled this year, hinting that dubious practices were boosting production.

Stephane Corazza, a leading policies. William Fèvre led policies. William Fèvre led compaigne to practical the Cha Paris merchant, is advising customers to stay away from all popular Burgundy whites an popular brigands that too many growers, in wine jar-gon, "piss" their vines to meet demand. Tim Johnson, a British buyer based in Paris,

British buyer based in Paris, said a debate had been avoided because French journalists shied away from criticising domestic wines.

"The journalists are so badly paid that trips to vineyards and the hospitality that goes with them are like a stinger of "he said."

blis label but lost court appeals. His rival, Jean Durup, lobbied to spread the Chablis designation to fill empty ground around 20 villages.

Mr Fèvre gave up his campaign two years ago but still believes that Chablis is losing credibility, particularly as new demands have been made to extend growing surfaces and upgrade downmarket Petit Chablis to Chablis status. status.

"We're heading towards a

syndicats, pursued opposing policies. William Fevre led campaigns to restrict the Cha-

blis label but lost court ap-

Comment and Letters 8; Obituaries 10 Radio 16; TV 16

News

World News Belgium is to reform its judicial system in the wake of massive demonstrations prompted by the paedophile scandal.

The Grasspeners, sectors are the control of the con is flegging private in ance intitative, proprising to skish Willehall rectape to streemine it. Sport Waybley affectively wan the race to become the dew National Stadium. to be funded with 9200 million of lottery money.

Crossword 15; Weather 16;

Sketch

up with US import



Mark Tran

HE porn shops in New York's Times Square have been torn down to make way for the Virgin Re-cords megastore, the reno-vated Disney theatres and new corporate towers occupied by Morgan Stanley, the invest-ment bank, and Bertelsmann, the German media giant.

If Times Square can undergo such a dramatic facelift, why cannot Brixton and Soho — recently declared a disaster area by Trevor Nunn. It is a question being posed by the burghers from Bristol to Birmingham as well as London, facing a squeeze on the public purse.

The clean-up in Times Square can be gauged by that most telling economic indicathe porn shop count. There used to be more than ranging from strip joints to dirty magazine shops. By the end of the week, eight at most will exist. The area has its own 40-strong rubbish crew, wearing spiffy cherry red outfits.

The revitalisation of Times Square and other neighbourhoods in New York through joint ventures between the private and public sectors has drawn increasing interest from local authorities and businesses in Britain, who believe that the time is ripe for the latest import from the US — the business improvement

district or BID. A British contingent including local government experts from Labour and the Conservatives toured Times Square vesterday to see the impres-Several London borough councils, including Camden,

First night

Lyn Gardner

UNNING at over three

in detail what It lacks in momentum. If anything, it is too carefully thought out: from the heavy-handed symbolism

of the dolls entombed in a Vic-torian glass dome to the flight

of steps that makes Nora's

final departure a very long

Paul Andrews's bold, splitlevel, black and white set is

the most radical thing about a classically feminist interpre-

tation, dispensing with the traditional Victorian sugar house in favour of a glowering Legoland basement furnished

with baby, mama and papa-

sized lime green chairs look-ing as if Goldilocks may drop

Goldilocks would have

dine Somerville's Nora, a

schoolgirl playing at being a wife in a powder-blue dress

and button boots. This is a doll-child who lives only in a

More than any other Doll's

House that I've seen, Brown's

production charts the sexual tensions in the relationship.

Hilton McRae's Torvald uses

Dr Rank's cane to scold Nora

as she practises the tarantella

equally stern and excited by her frenzied abandon. When

they return from the party,

plenty in common with Geral-

walk to freedom

by any minute.

hours, Irina Brown's production makes up for

A Dolf's House

A long-winded

walk to freedom

Croydon, have expressed in-terest in setting up their own BIDs. The Confederation of British Industry is also inter-ested, which bodes well as businesses will have to play the leading role.
"BiDs will tackle the prob-

thorities have failed to deal with." said Tony Travers, co-author with Jeroen Weimar of a study on BIDs in New York and their applicability for Britain, "They are consistent with the spirit of public and private sector co-operation" a a time of increasing pressure on public expenditure. The study cites several candidates for BIDs in London, ranging from Soho and Piccadilly Circus to Brixton and Harlesden. In the US businesses band together to form a legal entity

entitled to levy a rate on commercial property owners within a specific area to provide a range of services su as cleaning up graffiti and lit-ter, promoting the area and providing security. The Times Square BID, initiated by the New York Times, has transformed what was once a sleazy and unsafe district into one of the prime commercial

sites in New York.
Gretchen Dykstra, the fast-talking president of the Times Square BID, has some advice for prospective BIDs in Britain. They have to see them-selves as part of the fabric of the city and not as oases. Some problems — such as pornography — require a city-wide ap-

proach. In the local anti-porn legislation coming into effect this week, Times Square had to accept its share of porn up to eight shops will stay. Business owners, she said, had to deal honestly with the issue of "displacement" pushing crime and homeles Parliamentary approval would be needed in Britain

and money raised by the BIDs - an involuntary tax - would count towards the public sector borrowing requirement.
"The real problem will be tax-ation, the rest will become a matter of detail," Mr Weimar

shoulders, he almost rapes her, only interrupted by the

practising her charms, the abused child flaunting her

woman has all the more im-

pact, her strength and cer-tainty a stark contrast to Tor-

the tables are well and truly

abandoned child looking up-

wards as if expecting a miracle to arrive. There is no hope. This is all classily handled,

particularly by Somerville, an

actress of real presence and magnetism who has the happy knack of being able to pass for both 13 and 30, and McRae,

whose clipped Scottish tones and tight lips suggest a man

who is trying to beat the pas-sion out of himself to live as

vald's pitiful bewilderme This is a Doll's House in which

premature sexuality. In the circumstances, Nora's transformation from child to

comes on to Rank like a Lolita

arrival of Dr Rank. Nora

Bishops back minimum wage and union membership but insist they do not endorse any political party

Cities bid to clean Labour claims Catholic vote

Socialist Movement, which boasts Tony Blair and a third of the shadow cabinet as members, claimed the Catholic vote for Labour yes-terday, following the publication of a statement of issues that concern the Church in the run-up to the election.

The document, launched by

for Catholic voters to exam-ine the political parties' com-mitment to "the common It endorses union member

Cardinal Basil Hume, calls

ship and condemns laissez-faire capitalism and poverty. It controversially states that it would not object to a national minimum wage if employers will not volun-tarily pay a living wage, and

ignore the abortion views of candidates. It insists, however, that it is not endorsing any political party.

The Christian Socialist Movement (CSM), which is af-filiated to Labour, was quick to claim that the party "can meet the challenges which the bishops set out and the con-cerns which they express."

David Cairns, the CSM

national co-ordinator and former Catholic priest, said: This is a clear repudiation of the Thatcherite creed that views of wider society.

'My New Testament does not say Jesus requires you to join a trade union. Nowhere does it say God is in favour of a minimum wage and nowhere does it say the Almighty is in favour of the EU'

Conservative MP David Wilshire

Britain today.

Labour deputy leader John Prescott said he had not read the document, The Common there is no such thing as soci-ety and an equally clear con-demnation of the failure of Conservative government policles to improve the lives of the poor and marginalised in Church's Social Teaching, but maintained that his party stood for "social justice and A spokesman for David Blunkett, shadow education

and employment secretary said: "That the proposals hap vote on that basis". pen to coincide with the poli cles that we have put forward is perhaps a reflection of the distance that the Government has put between itself and the

was quick to home in on the point claimingon BBC radio that a statutory minimum wage would be "disastrous".

a one-nation society and, whether you're religious or not religious, you cast your

At the launch, the hishops said they were not advocating a national minimum wage, but simply countenancing it if employers would not voluntarily give their workers enough pay to maintain a de-cent standard of living. Chancellor Kenneth Clarke

shire the MP for Spelthorne said he did not know which clearly not the same as his. "My New Testament does not New Testament does it say God is in favour of a minimum wage and nowhere does it say the Almighty is in

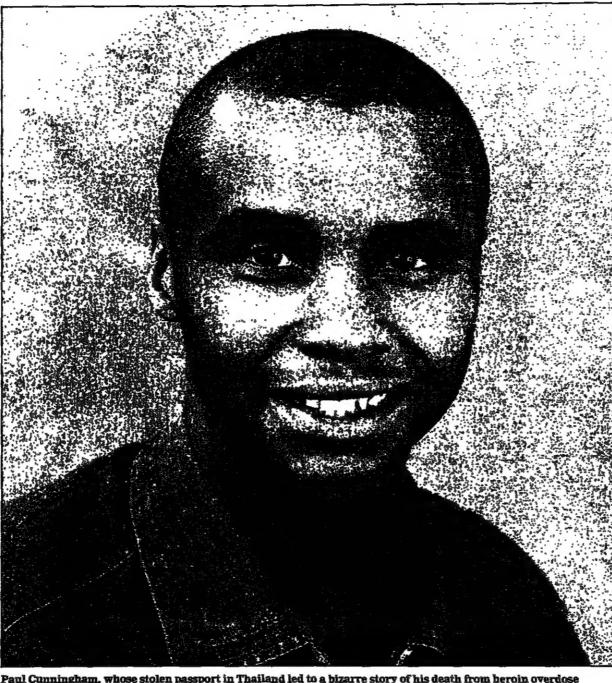
favour of the EU." The Liberal Democrat MP Charles Kennedy was terse. "If the Catholic hierarchy in Poland had issued similar statements a decade and a have enthusiastically ap-plauded them," he said.

His colleague David Alton wage would be "disastrous", claimed many Catholics would not vote for MPs who unemployment, particularly among the low-skilled.

Tory backbencher and Party have made a virtue

Konstant, Bishop of Leeds and chairman of the working party which drew up the guidelines said Catholics were not unde a moral obligation. "I think it is legitimate for somebody to vote for somebody who is proabortion if they say what I'm voting for is this political party because I believe that the poli-

towards the common good."
The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children condemned the hishops' attitude. "Catholics should read papal teaching which persistently makes it clear that the issue are fundamental concerns which cannot be ignored or downplayed," said John Smeaton, national director.



Paul Cunningham, whose stolen passport in Thailand led to a bizarre story of his death from heroin overdose

Family cancels funeral as son comes back from the 'dead'

Vivek Chaudhary

UNIVERSITY graduate whose family was told he died from a heroin rdose in Malaysia after his body was reported to have been discovered by a roadside has been found alive and well just days before his funeral was due to take place.

The bizarre story of Paul Cunningham's "death" began in September when his passport was stolen while he was travelling in Thailand.

failed to report the theft but continued travelling. Almost two weeks ago, a body was found in the Malaysian town of Butterworth in the northern state of Penang and Mr Cunningham's passport was

discovered on it. A post mortem showed that the dead man had swallowed oin and that one of the condoms had burst. The body was decomposed, making identification difficult.

After checking the pass-port, British Consulate officals told Mr Cunningham's family in Oadby, Leicester-shire, he had died of a heroin overdose and they began preparing for his funeral

After being told the circumstances of the death, they were led to believe their son died trying to smuggle drugs out of Malaysia. Last Friday, however, Mr

Cunningham arrived at the

British Consulate in Bangkok to report his passport miss-ing unaware that he had been reported as dead. After carrying out checks,

Consulate officals told his family yesterday that their "dead" son was in fact alive. his family today.

His mother Doreen said yesterday: "I feel fantastic.

The past 10 days have been hell. To be told your son is dead and then he is alive is just unreal. I can hardly de scribe my swing in emotions. I keep pinching myself to

She added: "Paul hadn't go a clue what was going on. He had no idea about the griev ing at home and continued his travels. But we had already arranged to have his body flown back and had put the funeral arrangements in

Mr Cunningham's fathe Ruel said: "The British Consulate were so positive it was Paul who had died. I am just extremely relieved to know that everything said about him was totally untrue. We always believed in him.

The passport which has been checked by Foreign Office officals, was found to have been doctored and Mr Cunningham's picture changed Officals believe that after being stolen in Thailand, it was taken across the border to Malaysia and bought by a drug smuggling

New fans put Beatles on track to a record

HK Beatles are heading for the biggest record earnings in their his-tory thanks to huge sales of the albums Anthology 1 and 2, it was revealed yesterday. Nearly 30 years after

the "irreproachable" hus-band, father and citizen that he believes he must become. their peak and having seen off fashions like punk, rap, But Brown's production, which on occasion appears to soul, heavy metal, jungle, disco and new romantics, be operating in real time, spends such an age setting up the exposition and situation the Fab Four are once again top of the pops.
The band's record label,

that by the time you get to what George Bernard Shaw called "the discussion" in the Apple, yesterday predicted that the Anthology series would mean total sales this year of more than 20 million albums worldwide. final act, you have all but lost patience. Nora's slam of the door echoes deflantly down the centuries just as it should You only wish that she could have got to the door just a little

£500 million this year mostly for its EMI record new generation of fans. In the era of Britpop, Apple said that four out of every 10 Beatles records sold this year have been bought by

Geoff Baker, spokesman for the Beatles, expressed surprise and delight. "Figures show that teenagers are by far the biggest group of buyers," he said. "You would have thought it would have been middle-

aged people."
The two Anthology albums have so far sold 13 million copies between year of more than 20 million copies between them worldwide, and back lion albums worldwide.

And the group's revived fortunes — which are expected to pull in nearly million.



Michael Jackson: deal with Sony on Beatles song rights

Record industry sources doubted that the Beatles' sales had eclipsed the pin-nacles achieved by other recording stars. But the performance dwarfs sales reckoned to have sold about 3 million in Britain

The group's receipts from the Beatles' revival, which include video sales, will be split between Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Ringo Starr and Yoko Ono. widow of John Lennon.

The sales performance augurs well for the third Anthology album — covering recordings from 1966 to 1970 — which will be released next week. It is a far cry from 1962 when the Beatles signed up for EMI with dubious earn-

ings potential and a royalty of a penny a record. When Michael Jackson came to conclude his block-

of recent hits such as busting \$890 million (£693 Oasis's (What's The Story) million) multi-media con-Morning Glory which is tract with Sony in 1991 a higher value was placed on his rights to Lennon & McCariney songs than they had managed to secure

themselves.
The rights to manage the Beatles' back catalogue were acquired from Jack-son by EMI several years ago and have provided some of the strongest recent evidence of the earnings potentials of back cata-

logues. EML, recently spun off as an independent music com-pany, saw its shares dip by 8%p to 1280%p despite the promising sales figures on lingering concerns that the world appetite for records and CDs is reaching a

'Staff have lost almost all sanctions'

continued from page 1 den (an even larger and more desolate estate down the hill). Then there were two, sepa-rate disruptive groups and it was like the atom: bring the two halves together and you get a chain reaction.

"We are not talking only about big, tough pupils. The problems run all the way through the school from Year Seven to Year 11.

"It cannot be allowed to go on at a school where the staff are hard-working, and professional people who do their best and the vast majority of the pupils want to learn and want to enjoy their schooldays."

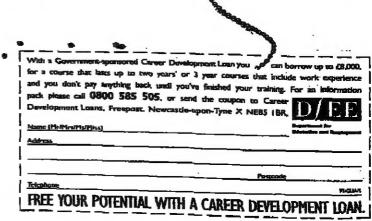
Interview by Martin

The tre that yo creatio protty !



WITH A CAREER DEVELOPMENT LOAN THERE ARE NO REPAYMENTS UNTIL YOU FINISH YOUR TRAINING.

SO MONEY NEEDN'T HOLD YOU BACK.



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Handwritten documents capturing essence of Mahatma's credo to be auctioned



Gandhi with Lord and Lady Mountbatten in the garden of the viceroy's house in Delhi in 1947. In one key text Gandhi wrote to Mountbatten disputing his stance on partition

Gandhi's £1m words of wisdom

VEN if I am alone, I swear by non-violence and truth," wrote Mahatma Gandhi, father of modern India, shortly before his assassination. These combined virtues stood "for the highest order of courage before which the atom bomb

palls into insignificance". His declaration of faith made only three years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki — of 78 by a Hindu extremist emerged yesterday from a on January 30, 1948. They

cache of 70 handwritten are the original texts — his former secretaries, V. astonishing myth," Gandhi ing millions of people in documents which came to scribbled in notebooks and Kalyanam, now in his wrote. Which a few hundreds of light through Phillips, the on the backs of envelopes seventies. Mr Kalyanam, The papers also contain thousands of savages count

London auctioneers. Said to rank in importance "with some of the great presidential archives and possibly the Churchili papers", they are expected to fetch up to £1 million on November 14. Felix Pryor, the specialist who first read them, said: 'I was left with a feeling of awe."

The papers cover the last six months of the Indian in-dependence leader's life be-fore he was killed at the age and recycled letters - of some of his most eloquent sayings on independence,

partition and non-violence. Gandhi, who trained as a awyer in London, wrote in English. His speeches and public prayers were translated by secretaries into Hindi and, often, back into English. Many of the existing official texts are considered unreliable because of this double translation

The originals turned out

it the gamening is Independence very

This observance was quito appropriate

when, in had were fighting for-Independence we keet not seen no hawles. Now! we have hawle it and we seem to be desiblescored

. At least Jam even if you we wir.

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One key text is his letter to the Viceroy of India, Lord Mountbatten, coun-tering Mountbatten's argu-

the building of a temple.

who lives in Madras, has

given them to a Hindu char-

itable foundation to fund

ment that India's Hindu majority would never have allowed partition if this had not been enforced by British rule. "That Hindu society, by

eason of its mere superior-The originals turned out ity in numbers, can crush Churchill was over-hasty. to be in the hands of one of millions of Muslims is an India is composed of teem-

26-1-45

his reply to Winston Chur-chill's denunciation of inter-communal "horrors and butcheries, perpetrated upon one another with the ferocity of cannibals by races gifted with capacities for the highest culture".

Gandbi answered by praising Churchill as a great man who "belonged to the blue blood of Eng-land" and had saved Brit-ain and the Empire in war. He added mildly: "Mi Churchill was over hasty.

which a few hundreds of thousands of savages count

for little". But the letters from his postbag which he recycled reveal the pressures Gandhi was under. The last letter he received, from a Calcutta academic, was almost pro-phetic of the assassination. It said: "The net result of

your Calcutta fast has been immense gain for Pakistan and immense loss of pres-tige for India. Alas! This from you! Non-Muslims have, I am afraid, lost confidence in you. You do not feel for them . . . "

Home prices boosted by shortage

ROPERTY prices are expected to rise sharply because of a serious shortage of houses for sale, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.
The number of properties

on the market is at an eight-year low and has dropped by a third compared with the same period last year, it says. Although the scarcity of property could threaten a continued recovery in the housing market, it spells further price rises for homeowners with desirable properties

in the short-term.
Ian Perry, the institution's housing market spokesman, said: "The scarcity of proper-ties is forcing up prices but it also means that reasonably priced, desirable properties are being sold extremely quickly, giving the false im-pression that a boom is

A general reluctance to put houses on the market will nip any prospects of a housing boom in the bud, he said, as owners delay selling until prices rise further, Mr Perry added: "Any stale-

mate in the market is exacerbated by the vestiges of negative equity. Some owners still have an over-optimistic expectation of what their house is worth, causing them to put their housebunting on hold." The institution confirmed

that prices are continuing to rise throughout the country — with a few localised exceptions. The fastest rate of increase is in the South, but Yorkshire and Humberside have also seen a large propor-tion of surveyors reporting

price rises. Estate agent Bryan Elphick, of Ashstead, Surrey said: "We continue to be very busy, but are increasingly frustrated at the bareness of our cupboard. With more instructions, business could be quite exceptional."

This was echoed by Tim Russ, of Beaconsfield, Buck-inghamshire. He said: "Homes are generally selling quickly with prices improv-ing. However, there remains a very limited choice in all

price ranges."
John Pocock, of Cambridge, warned: "There is clearly a problem looming in the market with an insufficient sup-ply of houses becoming avail-able. This has brought about a sudden rise in the number of competitors for many homes with prices increasing as a result."

But improved sales and prices are not universal. Wil-man & Lodge in Skipton, Yorkshire, expressed concern at the relatively poor level of sales of cheaper properties.

Richard Storry, of Stokes-ley, North Yorkshire, said: "There has been an increase in activity, but we feel this has not yet given rise to price and valuation increases."

All's well that ends well for Wallace and Gromit

lan Katz in New York

ANATIONAL cultural di-saster was narrowly averted yesterday morning when an apologetic New York taxi driver returned Britain's most famous Plasticine film stars to their Oscar winning creator, Nick Park.

The British film-maker had been distraught since being parted from his beloved Wallace and Gromit as they arrived in New York during a fierce storm on Saturday eve-ning. The original models of the cheese-loving inventor and his cerebral pooch, along with their £6,000 motorcycle and side-car, were left in the boot of a taxi after a hotel porter unloaded Mr Park's bags.

Mr Park gave chase but lost the taxi in heavy traffic on 54th street. He and publicist Arthur Sheriff spent the weekend contacting local radio stations, police and companies and producing a "photofit" of the missing duo. Mr Park said the taxi driver

walked into the Rihga Royal hotel carrying the black box containing Wallace and Gro-mit yesterday morning. "I couldn't believe it because I had sort of resigned myself to

not seeing them again." Mr Park said he offered the cabbie money, but he would not accept it. Wallace and Gromit were both fine. Mr Park recalled Wallace's Wrong Trousers: "All's well that ends well."



'At once I saw that I had to be in Delhi and do or die. No man, if he is pure, has anything more precious to give than his life'

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all sam

There is talk in Bombay of spending 10 lacs [1 million rupees] on erecting my statue. I must dissent emphatically ... In Bombay the beautiful,

insanitation reigns, there is so much overcrowding that poor people are packed like sar-dines. Wise use of 10 lacs will consist in its being spent on some public utility. — article, September 13, 1947

If [Churchill] knew the fate that would befall India after she became free from the British yoke, did he . . . stop to think that the blame belonged to the builders of the Empire?

- prayer speech, September 28,

It is perhaps wrong to de-scribe my present state of

A letter written by Gandhi two days before his a mind as depression. The more apt term, perhaps, is helpless-ness. In that state I invoke the aid of the all embracing Power to take me away from this vale of tears' rather than make me a helpless witness of the butchery by man become savage whether he dares call himself a Muslim or Hindu. - letter, October 2, 1947

At once I saw that I had to be in Delhi and do or die. No man if he is pure. has anything more precious to give than his life. I flatter myself with the belief that the loss of her soul by India will mean the loss of the hope of the aching, stormtossed and hungry world. - prayer speech announcing last fast to stop communal sloughter, January 12, 1948

It was a soul-stirring sight for me to meet Muslim sisters in large numbers yesterday. Girls in their party told me they were uncertain whether they should come to me. They were in Purdah, most

of them. I suggested they would not wear the Purdah before their fathers or brothers. Why should they think less of me? And off came the Purdah without excepwhat genuine love is able to

— prayer speech January 19. 1948

Not only should there be no boycott of Muslims but they should be induced to resume their previous occupation. Delhi is poorer for the disap-

The trouble with being a celebrity for doing nothing, is

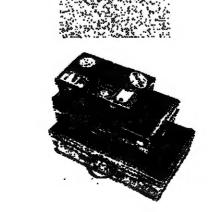
creation. Mark Borkowski warns: "The price of fame is pretty high. Caprice may need some talent other than

that you disappear into the candyfloss of your own

pearance of the exquisite workmanship of Muslims. The condition for keeping me in your midst is that all communities in India live at peace by force of love, than which there is no better cement to be found in the world.

We are on the road to showing the lowliest of villager that [independence) means his free-dom from serfdom, that he is the salt of Indian earth. Let us not defer the hope and make the heart sick . . . I wonder if we can ever be free of the fever of power politics or the bid for power that afflicts the political world West and East?

- last prayer speech, January 26, 1948, two days before



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her physical attrributes when things begin to sag." Portrait, G2 page 8

desides the

Religion, morality and politics

Catholic blessing for minimum pay

Pre-election briefing backs membership of trade unions and amounts to a wide-ranging criticism of Conservative record. Madeleine Bunting reports

HE Catholic of Leeds, and head of the Church's remark working party which wrote moral authority behind a minimum wage, a bill of rights and membership of trade unions in what amounts to a trenchant and wide-ranging criticism of four terms of Conservative government. The 13,000-word closely ar-

has been drawn up by the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales and will be distributed to every parish with the recommenda tion that every Catholic should reflect on its content in deciding how to cast their

The document is certain to provoke bitter criticism from prominent right-wing Catholics such as the Cabinet ministers. Ann Widdecombe and John Gummer, because of its insistence that the gospel imperative to love your neigh-bour requires Catholics to "address the causes of desti-

tution and poverty".

Catholics had to strive to build a "just and compassionate society", writes Cardinal Basil Hume, the head of more than 11/4 million practising Catholics in England and Wales, in his preface in which he denounces the "abuse of economic power" which de-

age. Fearful of the political min-

mon good.

able pre-election the document, insisted that briefing throws its the church was not telling Catholics how to vote. But the scattering of key political text will be seized upon as indicative of a strong bias

"Stakeholder", much used by the Labour Party, is gued pamphlet. The Common by the Labour Party. is Good and the Catholic Church's Social Teaching. while rejection of Baroness Thatcher's famous comment, "There is no such thing as society", is the starting point for the central theme of the common good. There is a flat rejection of another famous concept of Thatcherite con-

Democrat policies.

'trickle down". And in a reference to a remark once made by a leading Conservative that unemployment was a price worth paying for low inflation, the bishops insist that no section of society should be sacrificed for the advantage of the

Controversy will also focus on the few issues on which the bishops have committed themselves to a political position. Foremost of these is their stand on the minimum wage opposed by the Conservatives but policy for both Democrats.

"Employers have a duty to pay a just wage, the level of which should take account of the needs of the individual and not just his or her value

Main points

☐ Poverty: Even "relative poverty", must be addressed. The gap between rich and poor undermines the com-

Morality in the market place: Laissez-faire capitalism is incompatible with Catholic teaching on the common good.

 The media: Broadcasters and journalists towards Labour and Liberal are responsible for declining standards.

☐ Workers' rights:

Workers have rights superior to those of capital, including the right to decent work, to just wages, to security of employment, to adequate rest and holidays. servatism - that wealth will | to health and safety protection, to non-discrimination, to form and join trade unions and, as a last resort, to go on strike.

> ☐ The right to life: Catholics had to speak out against the use of abortion to solve social or personal difficulties.

this voluntarily ... the state (should) make them do so by means of a statutory minimum wage.

Equally controversial is the stand on trade unions. They back collective bargaining and declare that Catholics "where possible should join an appropriate trade union. We do not think the decline in stepping into, the Right Revon the so-called labour mare union membership in recent erend David Konstant, Bishop ket. If employers do not do years is necessarily a healthy principles which should principle which should principle which should prin



Cardinal Basil Hume . . . he denounces the 'abuse of economic power' which deprives employees of a decent wage

unions being too closely associated with political

"Some strengthening" of the protection of human rights was necessary, either by a Bill of Rights or by incorporation of the European into British domestic law.

Convention on Human Rights

sign." But they warn against | underlie political life, draw- | abled, ill or infirm, homeless unions being too closely | ing heavily on the social or poorly housed, in prison. associated with political teaching of the Vatican and refugees." Everyone had a the present Pope rather than right to "decent work, housing, health care, freedom of tackling specific policy areas.

The bulk of the document is devoted to the question of social cohesion and mutual responsibilities. Catholics

it was Mr Blair who wrote the foreward: He said Christian-

ity provided a "powerful com-pass" for the direction Brit-ain needed to take. "A return

to what we are really about,

what we believe in, would be

had a responsibility to use whatever influence they had

commodity to be bought and sold according to market others which has traditionrequirements".

In a stout defence of a state run NHS and of the public speech, education and to raise and provide for a family". service ethos of local and The bishops are careful to acknowledge that market national government, the forces "when properly regu-lated" create wealth, but bishops argue that social services need other incentives

undermines the common | this area has sometimes demeaned or damaged the sense of vocation and dedication to

> ally been a halimark of the professions involved". Referring to the lack of by their behaviour, contrib

Ashdown

'I note that the best things

have been done in the name

things have been done in its

"I count myself a Chris-

tian but I get uncomfortable

you Protestant or a Roman

Catholic?" That's not the

kind of Christian I am.

or religion, but the worst

name as well.

Christianity in Labour Party returns from the wilderness

Ewen MacAskill reports on a religious reincarnation on the political stage

Labour Party again in John Smith made a speech at came as a surprise that a Bloomsbury Baptist Church, Labour leader should devote a

ELIGION became Christian beliefs and demo-fashionable in the cratic socialism. 1993 after the late | cealed his Christianity, it

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which the party had appeared to be mainly agnostic. Both the party leaders in the 1980s, Michael Foot and Neil Kin-

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nock, had been agnostic.

Mr Smith, a member of the Church of Scotland and the Christian Socialist Movement, argued that Christian-

contrasted with the 1980s, in | cherite laissez-faire politics, | ism. Reclaiming the Ground, with its emphasis on the individual rather than society, and the Marxist left. Tony Blair had been influ-

enced by the Christian Writings of a Scots theologist, John Macmurray, since his students days. When Smith's Bloomsbury speech was pubity had an important part to lished in 1993 in a collection

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a healthy journey for our country as well as the Labour Party," he said. lieving in God, it was safe for Christians to come out again. The Christian Socialist Movement rose from 1,200 in 1993 to 5,000 at present, according to Chris Bryant, its chairman and a Labour parliamentary candidate. He adds that 40 members of the parliamentary party are members of the movement and 23 are parlia-mentary candidates. Of the shadow cabinet, eight are

members — Mr Blair, Gordon Brown, Jack Straw. Chris Smith, Tom Clarke, David Clark, Michael Mescher and Derek Foster. There is a queasiness on the left over the religious overtones in some recent speeches, particularly some of Mr Blair's. They fear it opens the way for US-style Moral Majority politics, if not in the Labour Party, in Brit-

ish politics. The re-entry of Christianity Maior

"I do believe [in God]. I don't pretend to understand all of the complex parts of Christian theology, but I simply accept it". 'I am sure it is possible to

attendance and a rise in social ills . . . I would like to see much greater parinership between the Church and the state at all levels to rebuild the moral and social fabric of our society."

to the political debate has Blair, said: "I do not want brought confusion, with reli- party politics hijacking Chrisgion and morality being mixed up. Both parties fight-ing for the high ground — whatever that is — produces unsightly squabbles such as vesterday's over whether Labour or the Conservatives were closer to the campaign goals set out by Frances Lawrence, widow of the murdered headmaster, or whether the Roman Catholic Church's

document was pro-Labour. Chris Smith, the shadow health secretary, echoing the ginning to become view also expressed by Mr able in the 1960s.

Blair

the socialist message politi-cally is to say that social responsibility is important to reinforce personal responsibility, not as a substitute for it, and I think that is what the important the Church does not become an adjunct of any polit ical party, but I think it would be bizarre if there were enormous problems in society and the Church said, Well, look,

The way I have reinterpreted

All quotes from Belief in Politics by Roy McCloughry. Published by Hodder & Stoughton. I'm afraid those aren't for us, those are for the politicians.

tianity for political gain so that you end up with the US experience of fundamental ism. You let Christianity inform your political views but do not go parading it around as a reason for voting for a political party." Religion has been part of

the Labour Party since its foundation, running from Keir Hardie and Ramsay Mac-Donald through to the 1945 Labour government, only be-ginning to become unfashion-

For Conservatives it has always been a central part of becoming prime minister six years ago, had little to say on it, regarding it as a private matter, but recently he has been less reticent, dismissing speculation that he was ag nostic by disclosing that he prayed regularly and that his Conservatism "flows from the

Christian faith Morality and religion is not easy ground for either party. given the diversity of opinion among Christians in both



Keir Hardie: early advocate



Ramsay MacDonald: leader



Michael Foot: lead party which appeared agnostic



Neil Kinnock: followed Foot

Stuart Miller 1

NHS 'should run jail hospitals'

Owen Bowcott and Alan Travis

medical division provides such an inadequate level of patient care that it should urgently be in-corporated into the National Health Service, according to a leaked copy of a report by the Chief Inspector of Prisons.

The 47-page document, en-titled Prisoner or Patient?, is understood to be an early draft of Sir David Ramsbotham's recommendations which have been at the centre of a long-running dispute with the Home Office.

The report comes amid mounting concern over the level of suicides among prisoners. Already this year there have been 54 self-inflicted deaths among those on remand or serving sentences Sir David has not shirked

from confrontation with the Home Office. Last December, he ordered his inspection team to walk out of Holloway prison to protest against the jail's appalling conditions.

The fact that his latest report had become an issue of

contention between Sir David and the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, was reported in the Guardian this summer. There were also claims of attempts to suppress or revise it.
The draft document, ob-

tained by Channel 4 News in advance of the final report which is due to be released on Friday, urges that the issue of how the medical service is run should be resolved within "months rather than years". Sir David warns: "The NHS

in England and Wales. The should assume responsibility figure for the whole of last year was 50. consistency of service to everyone, in or out of prison,

Deborah Coles, of the pres-sure group Inquest, which monitors deaths in custody,

yesterday welcomed the report's conclusions: "We have always argued that the prison health service is far too closely linked to punitive aspects of the regime."

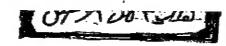
The Prison Service declined

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Stagg offers proof of innocence for fee of £4,000

Duncan Campbell Crime Correspondent

OLIN Stagg, acquit-ted of the murder of Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common in 1992, yesterday offered for sale more than 50 defence files which he claimed would prove his innocence.

A distinguished psychologist who would have given evidence for Mr Stagg if the trial had continued, also argued that the evidence

pointed to his innocence.

The claims came in response to the publication in the Mail on Sunday of state ments of prosecution witnesses. The statements were never used in the Old Bailey trial because Mr Stagg was acquitted after the judge, Mr Justice Ognall, had ruled inadmissable the evidence gathered by an undercover police officer, "Lizzie James".

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Tie.

In a statement yesterday, Mr Stage, aged 33, offered to make fresh evidence available for money. "Why shouldn't I make something considering I am the poorest of sile of them poorest."

Acquittal in September, 1994. He trusts that their enquirles will lead to the arrest, charge and conviction of the murderer."

Through his lawyer, Mr one out of all of them and in reality it's my right and my story." A fee of £4,000 was requested.

His wife, Diane, aged 28, said from their home in Roehampton, south-west London, that her husband had left for a few days becasue of media harassment, but he returned later. Earlier Mrs Stagg had turned a hosepipe some jour-nalists outside the house. Peter Cadman, Mr Stagg's

lawyer, complained about the media. "Yet again the result of this article has been a media posse encamped out-side our client's address. Mr Stagg wishes to put this matter behind him. There is a fresh team of detectives who vestigation since Mr Stagg's



Diane Stagg leaves her home, yesterday after turning a hosepipe on journalists outside PHOTOGRAPH: JUSTIN WILLIAMS

against him. He also claimed that the evidence recently published in the media was lawed.

"In fact, there are many perspective.

about British justice is that we don't expect people to be tried in the media," said Pro-fessor Canter, author of Criminal Shadows, a study of serial-killing investigations. Mr Stagg had answered every question be asked him satisfactorily and had not fudged

Through his lawyer, Mr Stagg claimed that senior police officers and Crown counsel had accepted that there had been insufficient evidence to start a trial

He received support from David Canter, professor of psychology at Liverpool uni-versity, who has also been carrying out a detailed study of the way in which the case was investigated. After studying the case and after interviewing Mr Stagg, he had been able to find no evidence that pointed to his guilt.

(pieces of evidence) that sup-port his innocence." Professor Canter, who advises the police service on interview techniques and has assisted them in many cases, said that the prosecution statements published gave a very limited "One of the great things

on any.

As a result of the way the case was conducted he was now advising police on tech-niques to help them avoid co-

Musician revs up his Saracens to back up Devon anti-road protesters

RECORD producer Jim Canty, formerly of rock band KLF, pumps up the volume in one of his two

Armed with nothing deadlier than low frequency sound waves, the Saracens have joined protesters living in a field at Trollheim, Devor - one of three camps set up in the path of the

armoured personnel carriers — ready to do

battle in support of anti-roads campaigners,

new A30 between Honiton and Exeter. The former Ministry of Defence vehicles have been turned into giant mobile sound systems by Mr Cauty, who gave a demonstration of their frightening power by playing Louis Armstrong's What a Wonderful World and music by the Carpenters yesterday. Even worse could be in store

the sonic tone you can hear in the background will be much louder and much more abrasive." Protesters at the three camps have been on red alert for eviction since the beginning of last week when the Anglo-German consortium chosen to build and operate the route under the Government's private finance initiative won sion orders on the land in the High Court.



Internet revolution 'creating underclass'

Sceptical 'have nots' could fall into information void and lose out in job market. Stuart Millar surfs the IT divide

nology revolution is creating a divided society with almost half the British public fearing they are being left behind, according to a report published vesterday.

The report, commissioned by the electronics firm Motorola, warned that the disturb-ing number of information "have nots" could be left at a disadvantage in the employ-ment market as new technologies continue to be intro-duced. It also suggested the Government and industry could save billions of pounds and improve services if access to on-line services was

Having an IT underclass, without the means or knowledge or to some extent desire to gear up for the future, will mean that society will fall fur-ther behind in the ability to take advantage of all that information technology can

offer," the report argues.
Information technology has already emerged as a potent political issue, with Tony Blair committing Labour to widening access in schools. knowledgeable, compared

HE information tech-nology revolution is creating a divided soci-public.

Over 40 per cent of respondents did not regularly use any of the main information technology products, such as computers, pagers and mobile elephones. Although 85 per cent had

heard of the Internet, almost 80 per cent did not know how to get connected, despite massive publicity. Of those already on-line, only nine per cent used it regularly. More than half the top executives questioned said they were not interested and 15 per cent did interested and 15 per cent did not know how to get on line. The report found disturbingly large gaps in under-standing between men and women and across age groups. Fifty per cent of men described themselves as knowledgeable about IT, com-pared with only 31 per cent of women. However, 61 per cent of both men and women were

sary skills to cope with infor-mation technology.

Fifty-four per cent of 16 to 24-year-olds said they were

convinced they had the neces-

with 25 per cent of those aged portunities for the future.

45 and over.

More than 80 per cent

45 and over.

The report argued that lack of knowledge meant older people risked missing out on opportunities to make their lives easier, such as on-line shopping.

It also warned that working class and unemployed people were likely to fall into the "information void".

But while the current gen-

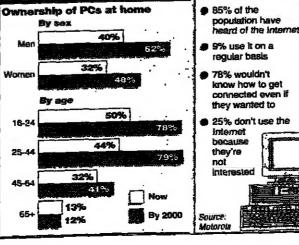
eration remained uncon-vinced, there was almost universal agreement that new technology offered great op-

Techno-fear

More than 80 per cent be-lieved that children would find it useful to have access to the Internet in the controlled envioronment offered in schools, and more than half predicted they would own personal computers by the end of the decade.

Similarly, 53 per cent were comfortable with the idea of casting their votes voting electronically, while 46 per cent said they would would be happy to do their banking via

The Internet



On line

OM WHITWELL does not believe in technology by halves. The 24-year-old free-lance writer's home is cluttered with equipment from computers to mobile telephones, but, he insisted yesterday, no anoraks.

"I'm not a nerd, I have a social life. But I do feel the need to have the latest or the fastest thing. I always end up spending more than I intended on technology that I'll probably never use to its full potential." His most expensive pur-chase was a new personal

computer, complete with printer, internet connection and fax modem. "The extras made it expensive, but it comes in handy for work." Like many, he remains un-convinced by the wonders of the Internet. "It's great if you are looking for something spe cific and you know where to find it. But it's too expensive just to surf around, and most of the stuff on the net is

Mr Whitwell's introduction was given a Sinclair Spec-trum when I was 12. I loved the games, then when I went to college I started to use PCs properly." - Stuart Millar

Off line

OR Lesley Bryant, the in-formation revolution has een a something of a blur. "One minute, people who were into computers were sad, the next they are the ones with prospects," she said.

At 34, the insurance adviser feels that she is part of an older generation. "Computers hold no interest for me.

Everybody goes on about surfing the net or sending emails. I feel old-fashioned be-cause I would rather pick up the phone or go for a drink. Her one concession to mod-

ern technology, a pager, was made grudgingly. "My office wanted to give me a mobile phone, but nothing irritates me more than people sitting on the train shouting to be heard. The pager was a com-promise but half the time I switch it off."

Behind the disdain, she admits that part of her animos-ity is fuelled by fear. "It annoys me, I am an intelligent, professional woman, but when someone mentions technology my brain switches off. And then I feel stupid because I don't understand.

"I look at my seven-year-old niece, and she is fearless with computers. That makes me feel more left out." - Stuart Millar

Sex case men tell court their lives are 'shattered'

Clare Dyer

IXTEEN men who were jailed for taking part in sado-masoch-istic sexual activities could be compensated if a challenge to the European Court of Human Rights in

The law which criminalises sado-masochistic sex between individuals' right to a private life as guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights, say three of

They were jailed after the notorious Operation Spanner case in 1990.

If they succeed, the Government will be forced to change the law and pay them com-pensation. Lawyers for Roland Jaggard, Anthony Brown and Colin Laskey —

Law 'unprincipled and incoherent and in urgent need of reform'

who died in his 50s last year after launching the Stras-bourg case nearly four years ago - say their lives were

ruined when they were jailed and lost their jobs.
Mr Jaggard, aged 49, suf-fered from depression after be was sacked from his job as a missile designer and had to

have extensive psychiatric treatment. Mr Brown, aged 61, a former local government officer. was allowed to take early retirement. Both men are now unemployed. The 16 men, all adults, had

consented to taking part in activities described as "genttal torture". The "victims" could call a halt whenever they wished, and nobody suffered serious harm or needed ospital treatment. Videos of their exploits, not

intended for public showing. were discovered accidentally by police and the men were prosecuted. They pleaded guilty to charges including wounding and causing actual bodily harm after an Old Bailey judge ruled that consent

was no defence. The men were originally sentenced to jail terms of up to 41/2 years. which were later reduced on appeal.

The case went to the House

of Lords, where the men lost by a 3-2 majority. Lord Lester QC told the

Strasbourg judges yesterday that the case raised important est. The three men's lives had been shattered, and Mr Brown and Mr Jaggard "will continue to suffer a special degree of misery for the rest of their lives".

The law was "unprincipled and incoherent and in urgent need of coherent reform". The Law Commission was awaiting Strasbourg's judgment be-fore making final recommendations for reform, and the court's ruling could be "a crucial catalyst".

The Government argues that banning sado-masochistic practices is justified beinjury and infection, and possible corruption of the

young. John Wadham, director of the civil liberties group. Lib-erty, and one of the lawyers for the men, said: "Consent forms a defence to assault in sports, medical operations, ar piercing, religious flagellation and many other practices which are not to every-one's taste. The police should be out catching real criminals."

6 A convicted robber yesterday claimed he was discrimi-nated against and denied a fair trial when the judge refused to discharge the jury for suspected racial prejudice. Michael Mansfield QC, for David Gregory, argued at Strasbourg that the decision to allow the jury to deliver a verdict despite indications of racial bias breached the Euro-

pean convention.

Mr Gregory, who is black,
was convicted at Manchester crown court in 1991 and sentenced to six years in prison. After the jury retired to consider its verdict. a juror handed a note to the judge stating: "Jury showing racial

overtones, one member to be excused." But the judge directed the jury to try to reach a majority verdict, and it convicted Mr Gregory by a 10-2 majority.

ek

With specialist news, profiles and the latest developments Read the week

The Guardian

Lawyers ridicule proposal for promotion tests

Belgians promised fast judicial reform

Steohen Bates in Brussels

ised in the wake of the biggest demonstration in his country's history. But Belgian law-widely criticised for compla-yers reacted sceptically to the cency in response to the torvers reacted sceptically to the

Shaken by the scale of Sunday's peaceful march, at which more than a quarter of ling of Belgium's paedophile accepted proposals by Jean-Luc Dehaene to end the traditional party nomination of judges and magistrates.

culed the government's pro-posal to introduce written tests for judicial promotions. out an announcement promising reforms after meeting relatives of the victims of the psedophile ring organised by the Charleroi builder Marc

He told the BBC: "We bave tice which dates from the time of Napoleon and that

people protecting the paedo-phile network and that we are ELGIUM'S prime trying to maintain a cover-up, minister insisted but that is not the case. The yesterday that he next few weeks will make it would move swiftly clear that there is no cover-up pects of the case."

Mr Dehaene has been

rent of national emotion un-leashed by the scandal and revelations about the incompetence of the police and judia million people protested cial investigations into the against the authorities' hand-abduction of children. Four abduction of children. Four girls, including two eight-year-olds, have been found dead at properties owned by Durroux, and 13 people have so far been arrested, but there has been condemnation of the authorities for mishandling inquiries when the children, and others who have not yet

been found, went missing.

Mr Debaene promised that a centre for abused children would be set up before the end of the year and there would be a reform of the country's 160-year-old constitution to end party nominations to the judicial bench.

Stefaan de Clerck, the Justice minister, met magistrates and members of the judiciary yesterday. As he did so, protesting students stoned court buildings and wildcat strikes

The protests started last week in response to the Belgian supreme court's decision to remove Jean-Marc Connerotte, the popular investigat-ing magistrate in the Dutroux impartiality by attending a fundraising meal arranged by campaigners against child abuse. That decision, widely seen as respecting the letter of the law rather than

against political and public pressure by the judges. Big criminal inquiries have been bedevilled in recent magistrates whose job is to lead investigations. Mr Connerofte is regarded as an outstanding exception. When the government introduced a written test for aspiring mag-istrates two years ago, it found insufficient applicants

following its spirit, was inter-preted in Belgium as an asser-tion of judicial independence

A senior Brussels lawyer said last night: "It will take years to phase out the political appointees and there is no guarantee that better judges will be appointed in their are not any guarantee against the promotion of nitwits incapable of reforming itself in a more modern way, prob-

to fill vacancies.

Kohl prescribes Germany bitter medicine on jobs

lan Traynor in Hanover

HANCELLOR Helmut Kohl backed away yesterday from his ambitious plan to halve Germany's record unemployment within four years, admitting that the goal, unveiled earlier this year, was unrealistic. In a 100-minute address to

Democrat party, Mr Kohl also reiterated his commitment to a single European currency and a federal Europe.

"The European Union is turning into one of the major

global economic and political actors in the coming century," he said.

is conviction that a united Europe is the key to future stability. he "Peace and freedom are not guaranteed and can't

be had for free." But the speech, received warmly by more than 1,000 delegates, concentrated almost exclusively on Germany's dismal economic per-

World news in brief

European Union's newcom-

ers, showed in elections to the

European Parliament this

weekend that they share growing fears about closer EU

But while voters returned

six Eurosceptic candidates

among the 16 deputies to the Strasbourg Parliament, the

Cuba appeals

HE United Nations has launched an appeal for funds to help Cuba with losses suffered from Hurri-

Cuba's government has

requested international assis-

tance in four areas - food,

medical supplies, supplies to

assure clean water and build-

asked for powdered milk, wheat flour, cooking oil,

canned meat and cereals. In

the medical area, they need

anti-diarrhoea drugs and chlorine for water disinfect-

ion, the UN agency said.

More than a million tons of

food crops were destroyed, in-

cluding some of the best cit-rus orchards and plantain

plantations, when the hurri-cane struck Cuba. It also forced 192,000 people to be evacuated and destroyed an

estimated 4,300 homes. Winds and rain damaged 15 hospi-

tals, 32 schools and 233 indus-trial plants. — Reuter.

UNGRY for publicity but shunned by Madrid's galleries, an un-

known Spanish artist se-

cretly hung his own painting at the famed

Specifically, Cuban officials

ing materials.

ing it more competitive.

"It is time for change, that is the message here," Mr Kohl said, outlining a radical shift in German economic culture to end the decline.

At the beginning of the year, the chancellor unveiled a package of spending cuts and supply-side measures aimed at cutting job costs to employers and halving the 4 million unemployed by 2000. Yesterday he admitted he may have bitten off more than he can chew. "I know that this goal is ambitious," he said.

"I'd be happy if we achieve two-thirds of that figure." He blamed the jobless total on a flood of immigrants since the collapse of communism. In the five years to 1993. he said. 2.5 million immi-

grants had found jobs. He also said the country's traditional consensus approach to industrial relations had become a crippling

liability. "If no consensus is possible,

Finns' vote reflects fears of single currency

THE Finns, generally the ment's eagerness to join the Democrats, took Finland last most Europhile of the single currency than as a vote weekend into Europe's cur-

Finland whose proximity to

Russia means it views mem-

bership as much in terms of

Sweden in January 1995.

Helped by a 10 per cent fall in food prices, opinion polls

show fewer than one-tenth of

Hurricane-hit Donors cut back on international

ing up because donor countries think of it as an oil

40 million people living on or below the poverty line, writes

David Hearst in Moscow.
The International Federa-

tion of the Red Cross has raised only 17 per cent of the

money for this year's aid pro-

gramme to Russia, and ex-pects to get by the end of the

soon from self-imposed exile following an agreement over missing funds, a cabinet minister said yesterday.

"God willing, his royal highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani the father

Hamad al-Thani, the father

Artful ruse puts Spanish unknown in the frame

titled Afterwards, on to the

wall in front of a crowd of Japanese tourists, his

Prado museum, where it stayed for four days before anyone noticed.

by the stayed for four days before world's greatest art until a guys".—AP.

year only 25 per cent of the civil society."

assistance to 'oil-rich' Russia

NTERNATIONAL humani-tarian aid to Russia is dry-ing up because donor said donors no longer view

rich state, despite its having nation for humanitarian as-

Ousted emir 'coming home'

QATAR'S deposed emir is ister, Najeeb Mohammad alexpected to return home Nuaimi, told al-Khaleej news-

[of all Qataris], is returning to Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani Qatar soon," the justice min-

Victor Ruiz Roizo, aged | museum-goer wondered 39, glued his canvas of a human skull with worms, dating it 20th century when

tury art.

Strasbourg Parliament, the result was seen more as a criticism of the Finnish govern- coalition, led by the Social Centre Party four.

of no confidence in the EU.

growing fears about closer EU security as of trade, joined integration, writes Jon Henley the EU with Austria and

formance and ways to put the as in recent months, then country back to work by mak- there need to be decisions,"

cians to mediate but to act." Mr Kohl's vision of a leaner and meaner Germany suggests more spending cuts are likely as the country struggles to get its public finances the single European currency

next year. week of battles within the ruling coalition about next year's budget, he backed his finance minister. Theo Waigel, who has come under attack from outside and inside the government.

Mr Kohl delivered his speech a few days before he becomes the country's longlor, a prospect that excited

the congress.

The labour minister, Norbert Blüm, summed up the mood in a eulogy to the leader. "We thank you for a great political life achievement

unity and of European unity.'

rency exchange rate mecha-

nism (ERM), widely seen as

the waiting room for a single currency. This was exploited

Though Eurosceptic candi-

dates performed well, the vote

left Finland's distribution of

seats in the European Parlia-

ment little changed: the five

coalition partners hold 12 seats and the opposition

Russia as a legitimate desti-

sistance, other than for emer-

Mr Weber said: "It's more being thought of as a recipi-ent of IMF loans and World Bank projects. The problem is

that this money does not filter

down and it does not create institutions which produce a

paper in the United Arab Emirates.

Qatar announced it had ended a row over billions missing from state coffers since Sheikh Khalifa was top-

pled by his son, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani,

it was in a room of 17th cen-

Ruiz said he thought "it

gencies like earthquakes.

by Eurosceptics.

You are the chancellor of two great projects: of German



questioned about the murder of politician Andre Cools in 1991 FHOTOGRAPH: SRUNDOS. 03HEL late April or early May, the and Slovenia. 41 per cent.

Clinton pushes ahead on Nato enlargement

Martin Walker in Washington reports on the president's plan for the alliance, which looks like being a vote-winner

RESIDENT Bill Clinton will today formally present a "concrete timetable" for the enlargement of Nato, putting the prestige of his office behind a firm deadline for the completion of pegatiations by 1999 tion of negotiations by 1999. He will not name the suc-

cessful countries to avoid offending those excluded. But initial planning with Nato allies is based on the incorpora-tion of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Slovakia's application has been delayed because of concerns about its democratic status.

about its democratic status.

Mr Clinton's speech in Detroit — a politically important region crowded with voters of Czech. Polish and Hungarian stock — will be his major foreign policy statement of the election campaign, designed to answer Republican taunts that he has "a photo-opportunity foreign "a photo-opportunity foreign

The speech has been phrased with extreme cau-tion, each clause fine-tuned by the Pentagon and state department to avoid affront to Nato allies and Russia.

The president has been the pusher and the leader on this issue, and he is now forcing the pace with a concrete timetable, and will work to bring the allies along on those that are chosen for the first wave of entry," a senior administration source said.

The speech, with its postelection agenda, represents a clear sign of Mr Clinton's confidence that he will beat his Republican rival, Bob Dole. Plans are already being made for a tour of Warsaw, Prague and Budapest once the accession negotiations begin next

spring.
Mr Clinton is then expected to fly to Stockholm for a compensatory meeting with the leaders of the Baltic states Lithuania, Latvia and Esto-nia, whose membership is

The key date to be decided is next spring's Nato summit. United States and other allies are pressing for a summit in

But there is little time to build a promised new consul-tation system between Russia and Nato by then, and to reas-sure countries such as Slove-

nis and Romania which also missed out on the first wave. There is no difference be-tween Mr Clinton and Mr Dole on the principle of enlargement But Mr Clinton has been encouraged, two weeks before election day, to nail his colours to the mast by a new opinion poll which shows broad US public support for expansion. Only a mi-nority would oppose sending US troops to defend a new Nato member.

The raw poil figures show 62 per cent in favour of enlarging Nato, 29 per cent op-posed, and the rest had no firm opinion. Among dents who identified thempents who identified themselves by party, 64 per cent of Democrats were in favour, as were 60 per cent of Republicans.

The post-election agenda gives a clear sign of his confidence that he will beat Bob Dole

Strikingly, when respondents were given 10 arguments for and 10 arguments against expansion, support for the move strengthened. The only arguments against had any impact on the public were the fear of higher costs to the US, and concern about extending an American nu-

month by the Centre for the Study of Policy Attitudes and The polling data were reinforced by a study of focus groups recruited in Nashville and Baltimore.

When asked which countries should be admitted to Nato, 68 per cent of respondents supported Poland, fol-lowed by: Hungary, 63 per cent: Czech Republic, 56 per cent; Romania, 55 per cent; Baltic states, 54 per cent: Russia, 52 per cent: Bulgaria, Because of the likelihood of a 52 per cent, Slovakia. 50 per

issued by Micland Bank pig. This and to are first chall characters but their story is based on real Midland customer.

Lithuanians turn back to anti-Soviet hero

Jon Henley in Helsinki

ITHUANIAN voters, disil usioned after four years nists, appeared yesterday to have handed power back to the brave if unlikely hero who led them out of the Soviet Union in 1991, Vytautas Landsbergis. Delayed results dribbling in

from Sunday's elections showed the rightwing Homeland Union of Mr Landsber gis, a former music teacher and Lithuania's first post-independence president, holding a commanding lead over the Lithuanian Democratic Labour Party (LDLP).

"This means Lithuanians can live with more hope and trust: the road is going to be be more decent," said Mr Landsbergis, who has repeatedly accused the LDLP of mis

management and corruption. With more than a third o results in, the Homeland Union had 27 per cent of the first-round vote, which will decide 70 seats, while the LDLP had 10 per cent, A runoff on November 10 will de cide the remaining 71 seats. LDLP officials admitted de-

feat and said they were prepared to work in opposition to an expected coalition of the Homeland Union and Chris tian Democrats.

Lithuania turned away from its independence leaders in 1992 as free-market reforms rocked its fragile economy. But the LDLP, despite cutting inflation and boosting production, failed to improve the lives of most Lithuanians.

Nearly 30 per cent of the country's 3.7 million people live in poor rural areas, where the breaking up of Soviet-era farms has seen incomes plumment a selection. comes plummet. Analysts said a strong rural protest vote was largely behind the fall in support for the LDLP. But many voters were also worried about crime and gov-

ernment corruption. Mr Landsbergis, who ran on a platform of clean government, lower taxes and more welfare spending, is tipped to become parliamentary Speaker before running against the former commu-nist president, Algirdas Brazauskas, in 1998.



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assessing the neighbourhood to planning and maintaining a garden (Mike's favourite page). For a copy call 0800 100 129, Lines are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

0800 100 129



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Yes TNo Are you happy to receive information from Midland in the future?
Yes No

News in brief

Pasta lemma

Panes tan

'It's ret British and act take pa

ton push The Guardian Tuesday October 22 1996 ad on Na Ex-police chief points finger at Botha regement

The Truth Commission is told that former ministers ordered atrocities. David Beresford in Johannesburg reports

force yesterday turned on their po-litical masters, accusing ex-president P. W. Botha and two of his cabinet ministers of ordering state violence during the 1980s. General Johan van der Merwe, a former police chief. told the Truth Commission which is investigating abuses during the apartheid era — that he received orders from

a amarice

to Have

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THE PART IN

The Market

ORMER members of Churches, Khotso House, in South Africa's police 1988, and to supply booby trapped explosives to anti-apartheid activists in 1985. Gen Van der Merwe said the instruction to destroy Khotso House, a large office building in central Johannesburg, was given by the then minister of law and order. Adriaan Vlok. "According to Mr Vlok, this instruction had come from President P.W. Botha personally," said the

He said that doctored handquarters of the Council of grenades and a limpet mine | be linked to about 40 murders

were issued to anti-apartheid activists on the orders of Mr Vlok's predecessor, Louis Le Grange. "He was not likely to have taken the decision without the knowledge of the pres-

ident," he added.

At least nine youths were killed by the booby-traps.

Gen Van der Merwe gave his testimony in support of amnesty applications by five of his former officers who are ffering to speak to the commission in an apparent at tempt to pre-empt criminal proceedings being brought against them by the Trans-vaal attorney-general, Jan

The officers were part of the notorious "Vlakplaas" police assassination unit led by Brigadier Jack Cronje. The five — the brigadier, a colonel, two captains and a war rant officer - are believed to



Adriaan Vlok: Former law

members of the police to con



P. W. Botha: President who was 'behind bombing order'

Yesterday's hearing before opened with an argument be tween the attorney-general's office and counsel for the five

The five were demanding full disclosure of testimony gathered for the criminal prosecution by the attorney general, and wanted the com mission to subpoena four tate witnesses. The attorney general's office opposed the application, saying that dis-closure would prejudice the criminal proceedings. The

committee postponed a Lawyers for the officers opened their application by reading the following statement on behalf of the men 'As members of the security forces during the time of th struggle, we have decided to come forward in the spirit of this new country, in the spirit of trust in the new government and the Truth Commis sion in particular, and with a

past, and to let the truth be spoken about our deeds. We will tell all . . . to shed the bur-

Calling on the National Par ty's former government to to us", the five said they "seriously doubt" a statement made by the former presi-dent, F. W. de Klerk, to the Truth Commission earlier this year in which he denied that he or his cabinet col leagues ever gave orders for gross violations of human

Gen Van der Merwe read 31-page submission in which he argued that the security forces had been in a state of war with the African National Congress and that

ment, which included the killing of hundreds of policemen. He said there was wide-spread reluctance among vet spread reluctance among vet erans on both sides to testify "For this very reason, under the guidance of the deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, vari ous discussions were held between former members of the South African Defence Forces], and MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe, the armed wing of the ANCI in an effort to start a process to convince those concerned to present themselves to the commission so

in its proper perspective."
Meanwhile, at a hearing in Cape Town yesterday, mem basted military commanders for a joint submission on behalf of the old SADF which mentioned only six deaths in

s to be able to place the past

Nicaragua's right hails poll victory

Phill Gunson in Managua

RNOLDO Alemán the Liberal Alliance candidate, candidate, pro-claimed himself president-elect of Nicaragua yes terday, after early returns from Sunday's general elec-tion put him ahead of the Sandinistas' Daniel Ortega by a substantial margin.

Mr Ortega, however, res-ponded that "the last word has not been said", and claimed that his party's larger sample showed him leading by a percentage point. He said there were still not enough results for the Liber-

als to claim victory. With 35.7 per cent of votes counted, Mr Aleman, a rightwing populist and former mayor of Managua, had a nine-point lead over Mr Ortega, who lost the presidency in 1990 to a multi-party coali tion headed by Violeta

The last opinion polls showed the Sandinistas (FSLN) at about 40 per cent, bout the same percentage as

to exceed the 45 per cent needed to avoid a second-round run-off because none of the minor parties appeared to be winning a significant

share of the vote. The final count for the Liberals is also expected to improve because the early returns were mainly from the cities, where the FSLN is reckoned to be stronger.

Mr Alemán, a lawyer and coffee farmer, told a victory rally at party headquarters that he would receive about 50 per cent of the total vote. He called on all the parties to participate in a national all carry out the changes we are dreaming of in He added: "Nicaragua needs all of us to leave the

past behind." Voting passed off peace-fully, despite problems with ballot papers, absent officials and power blackouts which caused the late opening of half the country's 9,000 polling stations.

A statement from the European Union's 93-strong observer delegation spoke of an "atmosphere of tranquillity". It added: "The electoral process will contribute to the consolidation of democracy in Nicaragua and the Central American region.

Ms Chamorro, the outgoing president, called the election "beautiful process" and thanked Nicaraguans for their patience in voting. "This is what I want, that

we may continue to build what we started in 1990," she said, referring to the country's first democratic presidential election. "People

The secretary-general of the Organisation of American States, César Gaviria, blamed most of the problems on the complicated electoral system. He added that the proce dure had been legitimate and that "everyone should accept

Mr Ortega sounded the only sour note, warning Nicaraguans not to be surprised if a 'situation of fraud" was discovered.

It was not immediately clear what sort of fraud he was referring to. Neither party is in government, and the electoral tribunal has been generally praised for its

Presidential candidate Arnoldo Alemán delivers his victory speech into a microphone held by his youngest son, Carlos, at party headquarters yesterday PHOTOGRAPH: ANDREW WINNING

Algiers mayor killed in shootout, say witnesses

OLICE set up check-points in the Algerian capital yesterday after the mayor was shot dead. There were conflicting reports about how Ali Boucetta died. The authorities said he was killed by a stray

bullet, but witnesses said he police and Muslim militants If confirmed as an assassi nation, it would be a severe blow to the Algerian govern-ment, which is trying to bring

mow to the Algerian government ultriner.

Cherif Rahmani, the special of other mayors, was appointed by the militants.

Witnesses said Mr Boucetta
was killed at midday yester
Comment ultriner.

Mr Boucetta, the numbreds of other mayors, was appointed by the authorities to replace militant Muslim mayors, was appointed by the authorities to replace militant Muslim mayors, was appointed by the authorities to replace militant Muslim mayors, was appointed by the authorities to replace militant Muslim mayors, was appointed by the authorities to replace militant Muslim mayors, was appointed in the violence.

Mr Boucetta, the numbreds of other mayors, was appointed by the authorities to replace militant Muslim mayors, was appointed in the violence.

Mr Boucetta's death, and a years ago, but all the surface in militant attacks, detainees were later their radical Islamic Salvaunder control a four-year in-surgency by the militants.

tourage as he was being driven through central A French-language radio

station, Europe 1, which is monitored in Paris, said 18 Islamic radicals were killed in the shootout However, according to the

official news agency APS, the authorities claimed Mr Bou-cetta was hit by a stray bullet as he stood on the balcony of his home. They declined to comment further.

A resident speaking by telephone from his home in the middle-class district of Telemely said: "There was a huge operation carried out by security forces hunting down gunmen in a neighbourhood at Telemely. We heard several

hursts of gunfire." Queues of cars grew at police checkpoints which had been set up in the early after-noon at the exit of the Casbah, the city's historic district.

Mr Boucetta, like hundreds

day when an armed group | said his death was a "cruel | tion Front (FIS) party was | pared a referendum for No-opened fire on his police en- loss".

The authorities had accused the militant mayors of turning the country's town halls into a "spider's web" for Muslim guerrillas after the FIS won control of most councils in local elections in June

Muslim militants began their insurgency after the second round of national elections in January 1992 which the FIS was expected to win. More than 60,000 people have

ria's constitution. · Security forces have ar rested a group of Shi'ite Mus

revolution in Egypt, police officials in Cairo said The crackdown followed a government campaign last

lims allegedly trying to fo-

ment an Iranian-style

books from Cairo shops and Egyptian media about the minority Muslims.

Egypt launched a similar years ago, but all the Shi'ite detainees were later released

Dr Norbert Holl, the United

Pakistan, Islamabad has been

closely involved in supplying

diplomacy seems largely

ALMOST 250,000 Rwandan and Burundian Hutu refutheir 12 camps around Uvira. where the army is battling

Reuter in Kigali

Hutu refugees

in Zaire head

north to flee

Tutsi fighting

The United Nations said it had started to evacuate hu-Zaire and aid agency sources reported that unidentified fighters had entered Zaire from Rwanda overnight and attacked government army positions close to Rwandan Hutu refugee camps in the

suspected to be in the north-

eastern town of Goma. Paul Stromberg, spokesman for the UN High Commis-sioner for Refugees in Rwanda, said some 221,000 refugees were on the move towards another eastern Zairean town, Bukavu, already cut off from Uvira by the Ban-

yamulenge Tutsi rebels.
But other aid sources said that with Bukavu cut off and fighting in Uvira and general insecurity in neighbouring Cibitoke, the refugees were in the mountains north of Uvira

headed for Goma. Humanitarian officials said there was no movement of around Goma and insecurity keeping to their compounds. Aid sources said heavy

fighting was continuing in and around Uvira, adding that between 4,000 and 5,000 Zaireans had moved into the town from the south, where there was further fighting. Meantime, the Rwandan army denied that fighters had crossed from its territory.

 In London, two people were toes at the motorcade of the Kengo wa Dondo, yesterday, demonstrators outside the Foreign Office, where Mr Kengo held talks during his

News in brief

brochule

nome.

US envoy quits peace talks

The American special envoy Dennis Ross pulled out of slow-moving Israel-PLO peace talks yesterday, writes Derek Brown in Jerusa The two sides are still dead-

locked on Israel's promised withdrawal from Hebron. Israel wants to renegotiate the agreement, signed by the last government. But the Palestinians insist that the deal must be implemented, unchanged.

Base 'destroyed' Sri Lankan troops attacked northern rebel "Sea Tiget

naval base by sea and air, killing or wounding 40 guerrillas and destroying the base, mili-tary officials said. — Reuter.

Diplomat seized Tribesmen kidnapped a French diplomat in the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, yesterday and took him to the province of Marib, security

Philippines ban The Philippines immigration bureau yesterday banned the

Nobel peace prize winner and East Timorese resistance leader, José Ramos-Horta, from entering the country to attend meetings opposed to next month's Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation

Meanwhile, Indonesia denied that it was considering granting partial autonomy to its troubled territory of East Timor. — Agencies.

'Landslide' victory Albania's ruling Democratic Party claimed a landslide victory in local elections considered a test for the country's democracy. — Reuter.

Kurdish talks

The Iraqi Kurdish leader Massoud Barzani arrived in Si-lopi, Turkey, yesterday for talks with a US envoy, Robert Pelletreau, on ending fighting in northern Iraq. — Reuter.

Beauty holds key A Vietnam newspeper has published a picture of the winner of a beauty contest for jailkeepers. Pham Ngoc Tam heads the Women's Association at a jail south-east of Hanot - Reuter.

fire averting a battle for Kabul rose yesterday for the first time since the Taliremained on the terms of any After several rounds of

shuttle diplomacy by Pakistan's interior minister, General Nasiruliah Babar, a sman at the Taliban headquarters in Kandahar said the movement's leadership had provisionally accepted a ceasefire offer from the Uzbek warlord, General

northern city of Mazar-i-

said prisoners would have to be exchanged and peace talks could follow. The ceasefire should be monitored by a commission comprising six members of the Taliban and stx of the opposition.

The apparently open-ended ceasefire on offer from Gen m, who has sent tanks and artillery against the Afghan capital, seems to fall short of the conditions laid down by his ally, Ahmed Shah Massoud, the former de-fence minister. Commander

Abdul Rashid Dostam, in the | Massoud's largely Tajik | Massoud. The two men were forces have advanced to within 10 miles of the capital almost completely reversing their retreat three weeks ago Dr Abdullah, Cmdr Mas soud's spokesman, told repor-ters that any ceaselire should lead to immediate talks on Kabul's demilitarisation and

Taliban accepts provisional truce offer

the Taliban's withdrawal. That proposal was brusquely rejected yesterday by Mullah Amir Rhan Mutaqi, the Taliban's acting information minister. "In practice, Kabul is demilitarised already," he said. "All military forces are at their bases. The city is controlled by

Acknowledging that the Ta-liban had suffered reverses in recent days, Mullah Mutaqi remained defiant. He said 6,000 Taliban troops

had arrived in the city in the last week and added: "Massoud was pushed back. We are determined to stay here. If the oppressors return to Ka-bul again, there will be historic destruction. We won't allow them back."

As the ceasefire talks pro-ceed, it is clear the Taliban tween Gen Dostam and Cmdr

years and only formed an alliance two weeks ago when the Taliban took Kabul and began

to sweep northwards.

Asked to explain the paradox whereby the Taliban prefer to talk to an ex-communist like Gen Dostam rather than an ex-mojahed like Cmdr Massoud, the mullah said: "Massoud always breaks his promises. We realise he's not The real reason is probably

that Gen Dostam's army is better equipped. Cmdr Massoud's troops are guerrilla fighters. If the Taliban could do a ceasefire deal with Gen Dostam, Cmdr Massoud's chances of capturing Kabul would be severely reduced.

The main question is what the Taliban could offer Gen Dostam in exchange for a ceasefire. The Taliban charter calls for a unified Afghanistan and they would find it hard to concede a de facto division of the country and give the Uzbek warlord a free hand to practice his very loose and non-fundamentalist form of Islam in the north.

Signs of disagreement emerged yesterday between ban side.

geared to preserving Taliban control of Kabul. A Taliban-Dostam deal would provide Pakistan with secure transport links to Central Asia and the oil and gas fields of the Caspian region. At a press conference in Ka-bul, Dr Holl emphasised that he has a broader agenda. "I tell the Taliban Pakistan may

he said. No Afghan government could expect international recognition and foreign aid for reconstruction if it vio-lated human rights, he added. "Article Three of the United pender discrimination. I say to them it is my Koran. Who ever controls Afghanistan is bound by the charter, unless

produce something in the short term, but other

He hoped there would be "a learning process" on the Tali-

see that."

they want to walk out of the UN, and nobody would like to

"It's remarkable that so many people think the British higher education system is attractive and accessible enough for them to come and David Elliott, the British Council's HE director

Education, G2 page 10

The Guardian

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A new mood of moralism

The question is: can anything effective be done?

NO ONE WHO reads Frances Lawrence's powerful plea for a more cohesive society can fail to be moved by its clear moral logic. No one who studies the Catholic bishops' conference's document on social policy can likewise fail to be impressed with its immense sense of collective responsibility. The publication of the two pleas on the same day is a coincidence. But they both speak for a new mood of social moralism which is characteristic of our times and which demands not just words of sympathy but a serious programme of action which, even with the best will in the world, a Conservative government

is simply not capable of supplying.

Mrs Lawrence's manifesto could have been written by Tony Blair. It picks up the Labour leader's vocabulary and priorities - civic values, healing a fractured society, mutual responsibility, support for families and schools - and gives them the intensely felt endorsement which can only come from someone who has suffered what she has suffered. The Catholic bishops' document, with its support for a minimum wage, its positive approach to trade unions, its support for a bill of rights and the whole thrust of its title The Common Good, is equally clearly more in tune with Labour thinking than with Conservative too.

These twin manifestations of the great collective yearning for a more cohesive society both bear witness to the immense civic and moral damage which our society has suffered. It would be trite to blame all of this on the Conservative government, and banal to believe that the election of a Labour government would magically put back together what has been so sundered. Yet there is a very real sense in which these outpourings are part of the process of a society facing up to what it has become - and examining morally better alternatives.

FORGET the moral high ground. We

are now talking about counting the

number of people without a job. Gillian

Shephard, the Education and Employ-

ment Secretary, appears to have de-

feated a long standing proposal from

the Chancelior, Kenneth Clarke to mea-

sure the unemployed in a different way

using internationally agreed defini-

tions. Mrs Shephard successfully ar-

gued that the cost (£8 million) could not

be afforded at a time of financial con-

straint even though the Chancellor ap-

proved. Crocodile tears to that. The real

reason was disarmingly crude. Minis-

ters don't like the fact that, using the

agreed International Labour Organisa-

tion (ILO) definition of unemployment,

the jobless total would be 222,000 higher

than the Government's own count -

with the divergence likely to get worse

Remember, the Government's figures

no longer measure the unemployed -

only those who are both unemployed

and claiming benefit. And since the

Government has fiddled with the offi-

cial figures 31 times since it came to

power (nearly all of the changes having

the effect of reducing the published

total) it is not surprising that the

recently reformed Office for National

Statistics wants to restore some plausi-

bility to such discredited statistics. The

Government's latest gimmick is to abol-

ish unemployment pay altogether by

changing its name to jobseeker's allow-

anyway. As a result of this and all the

WHATEVER happened to the great rev-

olution in Japanese politics? After Sun-

day's election the Liberal Democratic

Party (LDP) leader Ryutaro Hashimoto

is now only a short way below an

absolute majority. The enthusiasm

which greeted the ousting of the LDP in

1993, after nearly four decades of what

amounted to one-party rule, has fizzled out. Yesterday Mr Hashimoto made a

ritual apology: his party had not yet regained the voters' "full confidence"

and would have to "try even harder." But with 239 seats in parliament (33 up

on the last) he is sitting comfortably. He

can stick with his former coalition

partners or fish in "opposition" waters.

The main alternative party New Fron-

tier from which he seeks defectors is

led by Ichiro Ozawa, the former LDP

machine boss. Mr Hashimoto says he

will not rule out anyone as a partner: so

much for policies being more important

as the election beckons.

Fiddling the figures (part 32)

Yet again the Government is manipulating unemployment

ance and limiting it to six months meanwhile, will have to wait until after

Land of the rising sameness

Japan's electors are taking caution to new extremes

It is easy to call for a more cohesive society. On the day she became Prime Minister 17 years ago, Margaret Thatcher stood memorably in Downing Street and announced "where there is discord, may we bring harmony". Yet she then proceeded to lead the most socially divisive and destructive government in 20th century Britain. It was not simply that she extolled individualism at the expense of collectivism. It was that, though herself a moralist par excellence, she nevertheless removed the restraints upon a particularly hedonistic form of individualism. As David Marquand argues in an important new essay,* the hedonistic individualism of late Thatcherism is now under challenge from a new form of moral collectivism which, politically, is embodied and articulated by Mr Blair.

The great question which is raised by Mrs Lawrence, the bishops and by Mr Blair is whether anything effective can be done about it. Many of the proposals which they make that are desirable in themselves - such as the teaching of good citizenship in primary schools will take an excessively long time to bear fruit. Yet what people are demanding is a much more immediate social and moral transformation in which Philip Lawrence does not get stabbed by a teenager, where Jamie Bulger does not get abducted while his mum's back is turned, or where primary school children are not at risk of being massacred by a misfit with a grudge and a gun. These are desperately ambitious demands and exceptionally difficult to satisfy, though as the Snowdrop campaign proves, there is a public appetite for ambitious solutions which in the run-up to a general election no politician can ignore. The words are the easy bit the doing is the harder part.

*The Ideas That Shaped Post-War Britain, ed. Marquand and Seldon, publ. HarperCollins.

other changes, the official level of un-

employment is highly likely to drop

from the current level of 2.1 million to

under 2 million before the election. If,

however, the Government had decided

to collect the ILO figures monthly (in-

stead of quarterly as at present) they

would be much less likely to drop from

2.26 million in the summer to under 2

million by next spring and are in any

case subject to more volatility than the

official statistics. This is because some

people who are currently "economically inactive" like some married

women and men who have given up

looking for a job are not measured

either by government or ILO figures. If

they suddenly started to look for work

- perhaps because they felt that falling

unemployment might improve their

chances of getting a job — then it would

boost the number of ILO unemployed

(which counts those looking for work)

but not the official figures (which only

count claimants) without anything hav-

ing changed in the real world. A sudden

upward blip like that is the last thing

the Government wants to risk in the

months before an election. It is to

Kenneth Clarke's credit that his con-

cern for statistical probity (and, doubt-

less wanting to converge with Euro-

pean standards of measurement) led

him to support adoption of the ILO

system even though it would have cost

embarrassment. The unemployed,

the election to be properly counted.

'new money" and possible electoral

So the Japanese voter faces the fifth

coalition government since 1993: busi-

ness is back with the old firm. But it

would be a mistake to see the last

election as a clarion call for change.

Even then the electorate could not quite

make up its mind to kick out the

corrupt establishment. Over 40 per cent

of the voters were undecided till the last

moment (this time more than half hesi-

tated). The faltering socialists ruled

themselves out by their inept coalition

with the LDP. Only the communists

offered a real choice, making gains

It is Japan's misfortune that the polit-

ical mould, clamped in place for so long

by the cold war, broke too late for a

convincing alternative. A disenchanted

electorate has settled for more of the

unsatisfactory same. Caution may be a

particular feature of Japanese political

culture. But where else are voters mak-

from a low starting point.

ing bold choices for change?



Letters to the Editor

We need to adopt a better policy

less). Felicity Collier is talking about a mopping-up operation (Four parents, one child, October 18). The battle for the end of secrecy about surrogacy has yet to be fought. The crunch will come when the children of "egg donors and/or sperm mixed up in syringes" want to find out about their biological

parents. No preparations are being made for the children of such conceptions to find out their biological origins, to meet their egg-donor mothers. their half-siblings or their sperm-donor fathers, or to deal with and to fund the therapy/counselling needs that will emerge. It's not as if we don't have early warning of this psychological time bomb (set to explode in the first two decades of the 21st

I suggest that the agencies now bringing adopted child-ren into contact with their biological parents prepare to do the same with the children of egg-donor and/or mixed sperm conceptions (for want of a new term) Eileen Marise Lavin. 35 Templar House,

HE battle for the end of secrecy about adoption has been won (more or Adoption Bill for its many good qualities. She is also right to worry that the Government, grown chary of family-law reform after its troubles with the Family Law Act 1996, might choose not to go ahead with it.

But the draft Bill is certain to run into trouble when MPs and others realise that it would remove the present bulwarks against adoption being used as a means of general redistribution of our children. At present, adoption only comes into the picture if the natural parent(s) have ini-tially relinquished the child. or if the court has put the child into local-authority care because their bad parenting has caused him or her significant harm. Even then, the adoption court can make the order only if parental consent is being unreasonably

withheld. As it stands, the proposed legislation would remove both these safeguards. Only those parents who are confident that there is no-one else willing and able to do a better job of bringing up their child-LSU would be wise to view

other people's children but of | weary during the traumas of them losing their own. | adolescence? And his univer-(Prof) Chris Barton. Law School. Staffordshire University, eek Road,

Stoke-on-Trent S14 2DF.

OST OF US will share in the happiness of Clare Short and her son, reunited 31 years after his adoption Short finds a new model role, October 18), However, I have neither seen nor heard one word about the feelings of the adoptive parents. As an adop-tive father, I hope that I would be big enough to be London N20 9PX happy if either of my grownup children ever chose, suc cessfully, to exercise their right to trace their natural parents. My wife and I would be pretty devastated, how ever, if they chose not to rec-

HE Guardian described Clare Short as Toby Graham's "real" mother. I found myself thinking of his - "unreal" - adoptive mother who must have changed his nap-pies, endured sleepless nights such change with equanim- and worried berself through ity. It is not merely a question the problems of school. Had Royton, of Guardian readers getting she held fast and hopeful but Oldham OL26AH.

ognise the part we have tried to play in their development.

Name and address supplied.

adolescence? And his univer-sity years, did they bring the realisation that ties are being loosened as well as the inev itable financial pressures? Did his success fill her with pleasure and even a little pride that she might have

contributed to it? Be careful, Guardian, you tread on the lives of us "unreal" mothers who care so much for our beloved adopted children but cannot display our devotion so blatantly. Eileen Parnwell Whetstone

OR Clare Short, the wait is over. Sadly, however, if Toby Graham had not searched for her, she would still be suffering her painful loss in silence, as are many other birth parents. The Contact Register is only of limited value as so few know of its existence. Is it not time that the law concerning contact between adults after adoption is revised to enable the birth parent to have identifying information once the adoptee is 18 or possibly 25?

1 Kevin Avenue,

Asylum lunacy

AN asylum-seeker client of fours lost his income sup-

port and housing benefit

when the Government brought in Peter Lilley's dra-

conian regulations in Febru-

ary. He could not pay his rent

so he lost his accommodation.

When the regulations were

declared unlawful by the

Court of Appeal in June, our client regained his benefit.

The effect of the Asylum and

Immigration Act 1996 was to

reintroduce the regulations in July. Our client lost his

benefits and his accommoda-

We have just heard that he

has won his original appeal

(submitted in March but

heard in October). This

means he should regain his

benefits; but as he is now

homeless, there is no way we

the DSS, or the Home Office

can find him and tell him. Is

this the treatment Parliament

has fled from persecution?

intended for someone who

tion again.

Steve Scully.

Solicitors,

Scudamore Osman

Broadway Chambers,

Of sex, balls and Burchill

AM afraid that snybody — in this case Julie Burchill — capable of writing that "(she) wouldn't like to be French because they are such a deeply racist people" somewhat dis-qualifies herself as a torchbearer for tolerance and openmindedness (Pitch battle ends with woman carried off on a stretcher, October 19).

Racism is present in all societies but is manifested with varying degrees of overt-ness or hypotrisy. If it is any comfort to Ms Burchill she can take pride in being a citizen in a country where we do at least have the decency to wait until bloody foreigners' backs are turned before we

are disparaging about them.

It does worry me that some one who has important things to say about women's rights seems incapable of regarding others as equals. My French wife dutifully agrees with me. Vive les femmes et vive l'Europe.

Philip Deer 12 Shirelake Close, Oxford OX1 1SN.

JULIE BURCHILL writes like a pub bore. On Paul Gascoigne and domestic vioapparently) "consider vioicace against women acceptable" because they are "crap it sex" and "basically homosexual". Her analysis of the appalling repression in Afghanistan is limited to an indignant assertion that the Ta-liban's attacks on women are being played down in "some

quarters".

I can't help feeling that Ms
Burchill keeps some pretiy
bizarrs company if her male acquaintances feel that misogyny is somehow less unacceptable than racism; but that's her problem, not mine. Andrzej Jezierski, Limburgstr 16. 81539 Munich, Germany.

During 30 years' work as a child and family psychiatrist in child-guidance clinics, I frequently encountered boys who adored football to the exclusion of almost everything else, were much a mired by their paers for their football skills, were much feared as bullies, were incapa-ble of reading, and solled their underpants on a regular basis. I wonder if Gazza had a similar childhood? Name and address supplied.

Please include a full postal. address and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used

Media matters

THE Sport newspaper clearly does not belong on the newsagent's top shelf (The sport of misogyny, October 16; etters. October 18), A paper full of stories of rape and vioience against women has nothing in common with top-shelf magazines, which do not contain the slightest hint of such abuse. It does, however have a great deal in common with ordinary newspapers, differing only in the degree of emphasis it gives to such

Is it not part of the strange British attitude towards sex that, when a newspaper's taste for shocking stories of sex and violence make it an unacceptable caricature of the popular press, we seek to get it re-classified as "pornography" (which it isn't) as if this would justify its

S Davy. London Road, Coalville, Leics LE6.

WHO does Max Clifford think he's fooling other than the Guardian (Maximum anger, October 21)? As any experienced pub-licist knows, the most efficient and controlled way of exploiting a photo-opportunity is to invite only the Press Association. Of course he didn't want other photographers at the funeral of Mandy Allwood's babies. Had he allowed them access, the images that would have d would have been the media scrum which he so strenuously encouraging Lynne Kirwin. ynne Kirwin Associates

JOUR correspondent John Bell (Letters. October 19) has been watching too many cheap videos. Air pistols are limited, by law and by their construction, to a power level that will not break the skin. Alan Fairhurst. 26 Church Lane.

1 Buckingham Street,

London WC2N 6EF.

Manchester M25 LAJ.

paign against handguns should not extend to airguns Letters, October 19): my late wife lost the sight of an eye due to the action of an idiot with an airgun. Richard Reynolds. 5 Stanford Road Wolverhampton WV2 4NF.

O those who say the can

Our Father which art in SW1 T is not fair to present the social teaching of the Catho-If the current debates about

lic Church as political support for the Labour Party (Catholic Church "backs Blair", October 19). The similarity is purely coincidental. All through its history, the Catholic Church has urged the rich to support the poor.
On May 15 1891, Pope Leo
XIII set out in an encyclical the Church's position on social matters. It was never widely publicised. What Cardinal Hume has done is to take it out of its dusty drawer and bring it to the attention of the faithful.

Simone Crawley. 39 Bridge Lane. Stockport SK7 3AL.

WHEN bishops collec-tively and officially dabble with party politics, which is clearly beyond their competence, and when parishes are to be turned into cryptoto be turned into trypto-socialist discussion groups for weeks on end, it is time for their congregations to head for the door. I used to think the traditionalist Catholics extreme in their opinion of how the mainstream Roman Catholic Church had lost its way, but it looks like they were right after all. Richard Eam 24 East Downs Road. Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2LQ.

N your leading article (October 21), you rightly insist on some of the negative reasons for being wary of religious commitment in poli-tics. But you wrongly ignore all the positive reasons for being aware of non-religious nitment in politics.

Idealism and realism, ethcs and morality, decency and fairness, welfare and justice, law and order — all these are central not only to the Judaeo-Christian but also to the secular humanist tradition, and the latter has inspired many of the best think- | Trecelyn, Gwent NP1 5GA.

ers and doers in our history. politics, society, education and the media are going to confront morality, they should take note of the belief and behaviour of non-religious people as well. We are an important and increasing section of the community. Nicolas Walter.

Rationalist Press Association. 88 Islington High Street. London N1 8EW.

HO says the Catholic Church "backs Blair" in

its new briefing (October 19)? It sounds to me as though the Church is hinting that people should vote for the Green Party. Unlike the grey parties, the Greens can easily join the Pope and Cardinal Hume in demanding an end to the arms trade and the cancel lation of Third World debt because we are not shackled to the greedy economic interests which other politicians serve. Yes, including Tony Blair. Who can hardly b called "left-leaning". (Dr) Spencer Fitz-Gibbon. Green Party Policy 21 Meade Grove Manchester M13 0SG.

N the current elections for the Fabian Society exec-utive, I weeded out all cand-idates who boast of their Christianity and then made my choice. I want to see people in politics working for democracy, not theocracy. What shall I do in a general election? Anne Corbett.

95 Coleherne Court, London SW5 0ED.

ESSRS Ashdown, Blair and Major pray to God, Why does God send them different messages? Aneurin Richards. Cadlan.

Hammersmith Broadway. London W67AF.

A Country Diary

SOMERSET: Rach day, gusts of wind blow larger ho screens of foliage. We see hits of sky that have been hidden since the spring and cannot rake fast enough to keep up with the fall of red and yellow leaves. And there are other familiar marks of autumn. The carnival placard is up again at the roundabout out-side Wincanton. Throughout the summer, reversing the natural cycle, people have been hibernating in barns and school halls, refurbishing carnival floats with fantastic designs, devising new themes sewing on sequins and rehearsing tableaux, so that now, each town in turn can transform itself on one Satur-day night for a glorious mardi gras. Sherborne, six miles away in Dorset, has its Pack Monday fair. I thought the name derived from the pack horses with which travelling pedlars and quacks arrived like Autolycus to scatter nostrums and knick-knacks amongst the peasantry, so I went early on a damp Monday to see what happens nowadays. There were traders'

stalls, generators throbbing, men stretching tarpaulins and plastic sheets against the drizzle, and a few early customers peering at knitwear, burgers, cutlery, watches and mobile phones. One medieval touch was the stall selling bright velvet lesters' and harlequins' hats. Cheap Street winds down towards the Abbey where I found a copy of Sherborne Scene with an article about tha origin of the fair. A popular local myth claims that the abbot who rebuilt the nave instituted this fair to celebrate the day when the work was completed and the workers packed to leave. This has, it seems, no foundation in fact. But it was at Michaelmas fairs that agricultural work-ers assembled, wearing the smocks of their trades, and hoped to be hired for the season. If a man was chosen, he made a "pact" or contract with the employer. The great gathering naturally attracted traders and entertainers and in time developed into the

JOHN VALLINS

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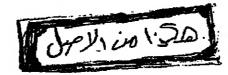
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Matthew Norman

ward Bond, best known for the baby-stoning scene in his 1965 opus Saved, is interviewed opins saven, is interviewed about his new play, in The Company Of Men, in the New Statesman. But there is a twist. Mr Bond loathes journalists with such venom that he cannot bring himself to speak with them . . . and so, in an earle reminder of the pre-ceasefire "his words are spoken by an actor" dubbing of Gerry Adams, Mr Bond agreed to meet the Statesman's Laura Cummings only if the questions were put to him by his friend Michael Bogdanov: in other words, Ms Cummings whispered her question to Mr Eogdanov, who spoke it to Mr Bond, who answered Mr Bolla, who answered staring straight at Ms Cum-mings. Mr Bond is currently directing his play for pre-views at the RSC, and we hope he will find the process informative: asked by Ms Cummings, via Mr Bog-danov, where the optimism in his play might be, Mr Bond replied: 'I don't know what the play is about yet. I may begin to understand by watching the actors at

HE Diary is delighted to see its old friend Adela Bottomley back news. The last time we met Adela, in August, she was on the annual Bolmondely family holiday on the Isle of Wight: indeed, at the Seaview Regatta, she won a greasy-pole competition (the Toby Bonham Challenge Cup), and pipped her cousin Charity Garnet in a diving contest, despite the apparent handicap of wearing a pair of Pamela Anderson breasts. How remote those happy, innocent days seem now. Adela, 14, was sent home last week, along with 12 others, from her Canterbury school, for under-age drinking. What her parents think about this remains a mystery, but the Diary salutes Adela, and throws its bat high. As an old family friend put it yesterday, "With a couple of fruitcakes like those for parents, it's a miracle she's a normal girl. She's great."

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ONTROVERSY rages in Inside Time, the prisoner's newspaper, following the publi-cation of a letter in which Rose West declared her innocence. "In more than a decade as a lifer, I have heard many claims of innocence, but this stands out as the most Indicrous," writes Harold Gerrard of HMP Erlestoke. "I have just one message for Monster West -do your bird!"

HAT classic hindrance to amateur football, the lack of a referee. has caused mayhem in south London. Such is the ref shortage in the Southern Olympian League that in great demand is a 76-yearold man who, according to Tom Smithles of Wandsworth Borough FC, "spends the whole game parked in the centre circle wrapped in a parka, blowing his whistle randomly". Fearful for his health, his wife's stock response to a request for his services is: "Sorry, he can't be referee, he died on Tuesday," Wandsworth knows the ploy, but rivals Notts-borough do not, and so it was that on the Saturday after a Nottsborough offlcial called to book the old boy, a minute's silence was held before all games in the league. Mourning lasted a week, ending only when he shuffled in the following Saturday, wondering "if anybody needs a ref".

ORE news of Kenny Ball and his Jazzmer ORE news or Ball and his Jazzn (and of his buddy

USPICION mounts that Taki-George, the Cypriot wine waiter, may be planning an immi-nent return to his homeland. D Taylor writes from west London, enclosing a photograph taken in a vil-lage called Arbos on a ent holiday in Cyprus. On the side of an old stone building is a sign reading: "Taki's Barber Shop". The Sloaney-sounding woman (his employer) who picked up the phone yesterday affected ignorance, and refused to release T-G from his duties to come to the phone. With good servants in such short supply, her reluctance is understandable, but she must not hope to stand between T-G and his scissors for ever.



Let us pray for all the politicans

Commentary Hugo Young

RUE Christianity asserts some very tough priorities. It's an easy faith to pledge, but not an easy code to follow. If we go back to basics. Christ's teachings are uncomfortable for all who have great power and even a small amount of wealth. The serious Christian has to judge his own conduct by how much it really observes a preference for the poor over the rich, and for the weak over the powerful. Jesus Christ was a revolu-tionary in his time, and those of us who call ourselves. Christian can never forget it. Selflessness almost always eludes us. In many ways, I'm an appalling failure as a Christian because, to be honest, I don't want badly enough to succeed.

This is just as true of most politicians, but with a differ-ence. They are in a position to link faith with action and, when pressed, often insist they're keen to do so. Whatever their party, they are hor-

of their policies are un-Christian. Their Christianity, like mine, is probably less flerce, less all-consuming, than it ety that has hoisted them to should be, but they find it necessary to call their belief. however dilute, in aid. Especially when elections are in the offing, politicians' varied attesting to belief seems to find a ready publisher. This year's version (Belief In Poli-tics, Hodder £7.99) elicits the new fact that John Major says his prayers, and the rather less surprising claim of every politician inter-viewed to believe in Chris-tian "values".

I think what they mostly mean is not Christian values

but ethical principles. Christianity is altogether too terrifying a mentor. A rich Christian country would not tolerate the giving of less than 0.5 per cent of national income to the poor of the third world. I see no version of Christianity that could be other than grossly violated by such a statistic. A rich Christian country that decided charity began at home would nevertheless decline to toler-ate the discrepancies of wealth between rich and poor which have grown with such startling consistency over the last 17 years. A so-called Christian policy, if that was its record, would have to be regarded as a total failure. tive, mostly apolitical prince-Politicians, however, don't lings of the Church, seemed

simple reason. In this regard, they are not leaders but followers. They reflect the society that has hoisted them to the top. And British society. while it pays lip-service in all sincerity to its Christian heritage, has not produced at this stage in history a Christian country. The words may be there, but the meaning is empty. The aspirations are fervent, but they're not sup-ported by policy choices. In pretty well every policy choice by every party, the Christian dimension — which can be summed up, in the end, as the preferential option for the poor - is, if it exists at all, more a grudging afterthought than a guiding

voters want. This is the ground, ripe for invasion, that the Catholic bishops of England and Wales tried breaking into yesterday. The omens were no better for them than for the politicians. For they too are, in their way, politicians. They're con-scious of their status as alien religionists, and ever wary of the risks of apparently inter-vening in political contro-versy. A document on social teaching, which had to enlist the support of 50 middle-to-old-aged, cautious, conserva-

We may strive to do better, to value and support the sort of society advocated by Frances Lawrence, but **Henry Porter** doubts whether we have the necessary moral fibre

The nation we deserve

principle: not because the party is wicked, but because

that seems to be what most

unlikely to produce a serious challenge to the politicians' own lack of Christian, or even ethical ambition. Yet that is what their

paper, surprisingly, does. Vying to outbid each other for moral superiority, the political leaders have had no difficulty endorsing the social crusade of Mrs Law-rence, whose husband was murdered outside his own school. But that's an easy trick, demanding no hard cholces. The Catholic bishops' analysis goes well be-youd it. Their language is po-lite, but their message is quite unrelenting: there's a rottenness in society, and we will tell you how a Christian should set about restoring it

They plunge directly into economics, openly attacking the "ideology of consumerism" and the supremacy of the market principle. They don't reject markets, but in sist they have to be curbed They oppose the growing gap between the very wealthy and the poor, and categorically reject the argument from convenience that has prevailed for many years which says that the wealth of the few is the only way of diminishing the poverty of the many.

to health.

HE bishops' document is an unflinching manifesto against the god of liberal, materi-alistic individualism. Materialism, it says, is not enough. The nation's real crisis is not economic, but moral and spiritual: and politicians mysti-fied that the feel-good factor has not improved in step with economic performance may find the answer in their own cynicism on this point.
What the bishops detect is

not only a deteriorating national mood, and a crisis in moral and economic security, but some of the reasons why this has come about: "a weak-

ening of the sense of mutual

responsibility and a decline in the spirit of solidarity".

This is a very Catholic view, as the Torles will be quick to say, Catholic social teaching, which has always emphasised solidarity, declines to bow down before the supposedly unbridled power of market economics. On the other hand, Tories who do insist they're Christian have a case to answer. What the bishops are saying is not that mantras about wealth-creation are mistaken, but that the British status quo, ie the fruit of 17 years of modern Conservatism, discloses pri-orities which have lost sight of even a dilute form of Chris-tian principle. They have gone too far. The moral infirmity of politicians, one might

say, and their reluctance to contest their own economic determinism, has produced a national crisis. It would be easy to conclude from this that the bishops are guiding their flock towards a

Labour vote. Some of the Blair buzz-words, like "community" and "social responsibility", feature plentifully. But I think this entirely diminishes what the document. The Common Good, is trying to say. When it states that "public life needs rescuing from utilitarian expediency and the pursuit of self-interest", it is saying some-thing Labour would find hard to say and mean. Labour accepts the materialism of the hour. Its leader is a Christian, maybe a more serious one needs them to do better.

teaching acquiesces in much they cannot change. It is not a rigorous or muscular Christianity. But it puts politicians on notice that the country

maybe a more serious one than any prime minister this century. But there are strict limits to how far he's prepared to take it. He can't lead the country into a bit of selflessness. The bishops can, but seldom do. Their update of social teaching convictors.

Dance to the music of the millennium



Julian Critchley

OHN BUTCHER, an obscure Conservative MP, untainted by scandal, has suggested that we celebrate the millennium by closing down the telly for five days. I understand that Mr Butcher has just returned from a retreat in the Midlands, and, rather like those of us who have ever been to a health farm in order to lose weight, is full of self-righteousness. He wants us to be healthy both in mind and in body.

I am not at all sure why we should celebrate the end of what the BBC has called "The People's Century". (Most people know anyway that the millennium should begin on the year 2001, not 2000, but hold your letters: that is neither here nor there.) Virginia Bottomley, who has been known to burst into song, seems determined that we should enjoy our-selves. She would not shut down the people's telly lest the underclass, bored out of their tiny minds, take up alternative pleasures of an anti-social nature.

A silent screen (including Sky) would not meet with the approval of Michael Howard, whose doughty fight against crime can only succeed for as long as the populace is safe at home watching soap, and not beating old ladies over the head in search of their national assistance. Why should the pubs flourish in consequence of a silent screen?

Perhaps I could make some suggestions as how best to celebrate the end of the 20th century? Best of all would be to ignore it totally, as we have suffered from every catastrophe known to man save for the Black Death, and not fall in with the authorities in their desperate attempt to combine a Diamond age of discretion, dance in the streets? Will the fountains run with wine? But Nanny knows best, and I have no doubt that Virginia has pleasures in store up her puffed sleaves.

Why not persuade Norman preferably a silent order? He should be joined by Bill (Nametape) Cash, Alistair McAlpine, Sir Teddy Taylor, Steve Norris and Sir James Goldsmith. Edwina Currie, Emma Nicholson and Sarah Keays would put down their pens. Rupert Murdoch might take out Brazilian national-

ity, Andrew Neil lie down with Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, and Ted Heath with Lady Thatcher. John Major would cease from worrying about class, while Tony Blair would take over the title role in "Heathcliffe" from Sir Cliff Richard.

If there is to be a self-denying ordinance let it apply to the British press, long recognised as the best in the world. The Sun would set, safe in the knowledge that for five days at least, it would not fall for some expensive confidence trick. Christopher Booker of the Sunday Tele-graph would cease from frightening the kiddles with tales of the wicked bureaucrats of Brussels, Matthew Parris would enjoy a well-earned rest, and the teenage earned rest, and the teenage leader-writers of our great newspapers would end their ceaseless striving for some-thing interesting to say. For the better part of a week there would be no public mention of Di or Fergis;

peace, perfect peace.

Douglas Hogg has already given us bread, and now Mrs Bottomley is to lay on cir-cuses. But it is John Butcher who worries me most. He served for a short time in government. Why should he now return to haunt us when he would be better employed asleep upon the Government backbenches? There are few enough Tory MPs as it is who can be relied on in all weath-ers to do the decent thing.

Mr Butcher has said — excathedra — that "part of the celebrations should permit contemplation, a communing with previous generations, and an opportunity for each individual to take stock". We are incapable of contemplation, not even of our navels; and as for communing with previous generations, what have we in common with the Victorian Divines, William Ewart Gladstone and Florence Nightingale?

OR have I the slightest wish "to take stock".
Come the millennium I will send out for a video of Ian McKellen's Richard III, which is surely the film of the year, and dance with my partner to the strains of Marlow set to rag-time: "Come live with me and be my Love." And sucks to the likes of Johnny Butcher. As Harold Macmillan once said: "If the people want a moral lead, let them listen to their bishops." Not to their backbenchers

I suspect that Mr Butcher is in league with the makers of jigsaw puzzles, Monopoly and bridge. The best that can secretly in favour of conversation. But what on earth would most of us find to talk about?

Julian Critchley is the Conservative MP for Aldershot. Owing to ill health, he will not be standing at the general election



may it is that we have lost the

ability to criticise and make the necessary adjustments in

our own behaviour.
This may seem a rather unsatisfactory thing to say, but it is just too easy to ac-

cuse Mr Major and Mr Blair There is, however, a long way to go before they can reduce the effect of the years of Thatcherism, in which it of indecently pursuing the fu-neral cortege of Philip Law-rence, so that we can blame rence, so that we can blame them again when another child like Nikki Conroy is stabbed at her school, or a lumatic runs amok with a machete or a handgum.

At hase this not really about politics, because there are only one or two ways in which politicians can contribute to the revolution that Mrs Lawrence has called for. The most obvious is setting the

we were told, were living off public money; they should be made to grasp the beauty and wisdom of market forces, irrespective of the toll on the spective of the toll on the quality of their service.

tone, which they have begun to do by supporting her manifesto. We may say that they are merely twirling on the electoral catwalk; but what does this matter if they actually effect a change?

There is however a long triple of the profit motive. These people, we were told, were living off public money; they should be that both men displayed in the last 12 months. Teachers

The reflex sneer — which she also attacks — is lodged so deeply that even the most reasonable of us finds ourself gagging at the idea of actually praising the good work that teachers do. Teachers have been an object of contempt among parents for so long that it is barely surprising that raucous bullet-beaded thugs enter school without the slightest respect for an-thority; it was a matter of Mafeking. Why should those time before one of them of us who have reached the pulled a combat knife and stabbed a beadmaster through the heart. Mrs Lawrence is talking about the prevalent attitudes

old habits of mind die slowly.

in our national consciousnenss. These are extremely difficult to reform when the long been insistently foster-ing ideas of suspicion and selfishness. This is to say nothing of the way in which mass-circulation newspapers have contributed by under-mining respect for institu-tional authority. But these things are now

our responsibility. Just be-cause Mrs Thatcher's government and its friends on the Sun played to some of the country's worst instincts, there is no reason why we should not go in for a little personal revision. Mr Major has; and, whatever one thinks not a trace of the old 80s

As I said at the beginning, Mrs Lawrence's is not a political manifesto. Certainly she makes suggestions about civic values, about the ban on combat knives and the raising of the status of teachers and police officers, some of which can be usefully encour-aged by legislation. But the heart of her vision — indeed, the heart of the debate which began with the murder of Jamie Bulger and developed with Dunblane — involves a question. It is: how do we reconcile public opinion with public attitudes, that is to say the way we actually think and behave?

Public opinion agrees absolutely with Mrs Lawrence. It is concerned that children should walk to school along streets which are safe, that their minds should not be blighted by the "drive-thru McDonald's morality of the mass media", and that they should be brought up to understand their duties to society. Public attitudes, on the other hand, suggest that we are careless of these val-ues and that we are simply unwilling to make the effort to change. We say we believe one thing, but when it comes down to it we will continue to act as we have for the last two

This accounted for Mrs Thatcher's great success at election time, for she understood the mean side of the British character and she didn't mind being open about

Mr Major and Mr Blair would never be so obvious; but they must still take into consideration the strange dissonance between our convictions and desires. And before we all complacently imagine that things are going to be better now that Frances Lawrence has spoken, we should too.



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Jumping jet flash

HIRTY-SIX years to affectionately by his colago today, Bill Bed leagues for much of his career ago today, Bill Bed-ford, who has died aged 75, carried out the first tethered hovering tests of the Hawker P1127 prototype, XP831, at Dunsfold aerodrome near Guildford. The P1127 was to become the Harrier jump-jet, the unique vertical take-off fighter-bomber which has been sold worldwide, and, in its later variants, remains technologically almost uncase and, when he chose to challenged to this day. In 1963 Bill Bedford took

that undeveloped prototype to the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal. There he successfully demonstrated the feasibility of operating a jet fighter by means of vertical landing. He thus opened the eyes of the Royal Navy to the machine that was to become the future of their fixed-wing aircraft operations, effectively keeping the Fleet Air Arm in being. In 1966, he was the first man to take the Harrier from vertical take-off into conventional. point-to-point flight. Sixteen years later, the aircraft pro-vided crucial air defence for the British during the 1982 Falklands campaign.

ity for the relevant aeroplane or cause. Given the technical, commercial, political and operational doubts that sur-

as "A W Brackets", was one of the most important and in-fluential personalities in the postwar British aircraft industry. But it was his person-ality, as much as his exceptional talent as a pilot, which marked his contribution to aviation. He had a boundless enthusiasm, allied with a finely-honed political judg-ment as to how far to push his

The industry has a phrase for men like Bill Bedford — he was a 'total aviation person'

devasting charm. He was at his best in front of the camera and, on such occasions, he never failed to

rounded the idea of a vertically-landing jet fighter in the 1960s, Bedford's talent for publicity was vital.
Educated at Loughborough College School, Bedford went

on to an electrical engineer-ing apprenticeship at Black-burn Starling before joining the Royal Air Force in 1940. During the second world war he flew Hawker Hurricanes fighters which came from the same design team that was to develop the Harrier becoming a flying instructor Between 1950 and 1951 he

was a test pilot at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough. In 1951, he left to become a test pilot with Hawker. At that time the company was producing and test-ing the key aircraft in the second wave of British jet He worked on the subsonic

Sea Hawk naval jet fighter and on the Hunter, the principal RAF fighter of the 1950s and early 1960s. In the latter aircraft Bedford broke several records, including the London-Rome and point-topoint world speed records. In

leisurely excursion round

some of the finest examples of Parisian architecture. At the lena stop stands the Museee Guimet, a magnificent collec-

tion of oriental arts, whose ex-haustive, scholarly catalogue was compiled by Dr Frank, who had assembled the galler-

rejected by most modern poets

as unsuited to themes from

contemporary life. But, in the

revival of the form strictly

composed still, but embracing

very subject under the sun.

This reading was a kikkoten or

"offering in petition for skill

the Imperial Palace in Tokyo is directed by the head of this ancient family of poets, one of

whose *waka* appears in

Miyabi (Elegant Courtly

Refinement), and the catalogue

of the performance and its ac-

in the arts, especially poetry." The annual ceremony of New Year poem recitations at pilot, a post he held until 1967 - by which time Hawker had become Hawker Siddeley Avi-

decks had proved abortive. But, in the mid-1950s, the British "flying bedstead" had ation and he had become the demonstrated that there was another route to VTO (other than helicopters) and thus it tary supersonic flight was was, on October 22, 1960, that commonplace, but attempts to produce a vertical take-off Bedford took the P1127 a cou-

years that followed the aircraft went into service with the RAF, the RN, the United States Marine Corps, the Spanish, Indian, Italian and, most recently, Thai navies versions, was built by McDonnell Douglas

and flew into a new era. In the | started in the 1985 Arnold Schwarzenegger film True

Today's Harrier pilots would be horrified if they knew just how tricky that early prototype was in 1963, but while Bill Bedford had some crashes - and ejected

Reach for the sky ... Bill Bedford (right) celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first landing of his Harrier prototype on the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal

Red tape slashed pspeed pow of he remained unscathed: The industry has a phrase for men like Bill Bedford. "total aviation person". At different stages in his career he successfully operated between the extremes of old-fashioned suck-it-and-see pio-neering pilot and wise-counsellor of the modern ganrivate eration. After his stint as sales manager, he became British Aerospace's divisional marketing manager and, from 1983 to 1986, BAe's South-east Asian regional ex-ecutive. He was passionately interested in airshow display safety and wrote and spoke

extensively on the subject. He was also an accor plished glider pilot. He held eight records, including the national distance — 257 miles and altitude records of 21 340 feet. His many awards in 1945 and the Order of the British Empire in 1961, soon after his initial triumph with the P1127. He leaves his wife Mary, and his son Peter.

Alfred William (Bill) Bedford test pilot, born Nove

Bernard Frank

Master of the Orient

are currently pouring into the Grand Palais in Paris to view an exhibition of 50 ancient Buddhist sculptures from Kofukuji temple in Nara, a city founded in 710AD on the model of the Chinese capital. Chang-an. The sculptures are nearly all classed as "national treasures" or "important culanese authorities have taken a great risk in allowing them to appear outside Japan.

One of the people respon-sible for the exhibition, and for its sumptuous catalogue. was Dr Bernard Frank, who has died aged 69, holder of the chair of Japanese civilization at the Collège de France, and a tween 1972 and 1974, he was director of the Maison Franco-Japonaise in Tokyo.

entalism, a movement distinguished in a more popular manner by writers like André Malraux, Paul Claudel, Pierre Loti and Victor Segalen, and in a scholarly approach by translators like Gaston Renondeau (Tales of Ise) and Rene Sieffert, author of the finest modern translation of The Frank studied Chinese and Japanese at the Ecole Nation-

ale des Langues et Civilizations Orientales. He joined those other translators in the Gallimard series. Connaissance de l'Orient, with his ver-sion of Konjaku Monogatari (Tales from Times Now Past) and wrote a study of the songs of Narayama, on which Shohel Imamura based his film The Ballad of Narayama (Golden Palm, Cannes, 1983). The 82 bus from the Luxern bourg Gardens takes one on a

companying exhibition was compiled by Bernard Frank who translated a selection of the waka by Tamehito Reizei. The boot departing has made a vow to return in the coming year.

The sound of oars grows under the skies now

Bernard Frank was such a conscientious professor. He ing his lectures to students, and it is to be hoped that the essays he wrote for obscure scholarly journals may one day be collected. His writing has elegance and charm as well as authority. It is said be died murmuring a Buddhist sutra. A memorial mass was said for him at the church of Saint-Pierre de Neuilly, Paris. I am sure that in Japan there were candles and sticks of incense burning for the repose of his soul in the temples and on the family altars of his many friends in that land.

James Kirkup

Bernard Frank, oriental scholar and writer, born February 28, 1927; died 15 October 15, 1996

Jack Robertson

company's sales manager.

By the end of the 1950s mili-

The quiet man of county cricket

ies displaying the Buddhist pantheon from China and Japan, One of the occasions on which I remember him best was at a reading of traditional time. A contemporary of Len Hutton and Cyril Washbrook, ex county colclassic waka by that poetic league of the terrible twins, Denis Compton and Bill style's guardians, the Rezei family from Kyoto, held at the Musée Guimet in 1993. The Edrich, this gifted player was toaka, also known as tanka, is a lyrical verse of 31 syllables restricted to just 11 Test matches in the aix years which today is divided into five lines of 5-7-5-7-7 syllables. The form was, for a while, following the second world war, and just two of them at

But he still scored 881 runs for England at 46.36, and headed the averages on Gubby Allen's 1947-48 Carib-bean tour. Opening the bat-ting at Port-of-Spain, in only his sixth Test innings, he made 133, while on his home territory at Lord's, in 1949, he replaced the injured Washbrook and scored 121 against played a home Test again.

Robertson was an integral component of the brilliant Middlesex batting side of the late 1940s. While Compton's reputation came as an out in a career that began in 1937 win by an innings and 54 runs

ACK Robertson, who | Brylcream brilliance and has died aged 79, was a Edrich's gung-ho ebuilience batsman in the wrong captured the headlines, it was Robertson's understated, selfthe innings. On nine occa-sions during the summer of 1947, Robertson and his opening partner, Sid Brown, pro-duced rapid century partnerships, including one of 310 against Nottinghamshire that remained a county record for

So while Compton and Edrich were scoring in excess of 3,000 runs that season, Robertson was quietly amassing 2,760, with the help of a dozen centuries. Four years later, he exceeded that with 2917 runs, the best of seven successive post-war seasons in which he passed 2,000 runs. Robertson scored by virtue

of a composed and stylish technique. At 5ft 11in he was beautifully balanced and a su-preme timer of the ball. His



ball with exemplary judgment on the tallish side, but the of line, but he also possessed a play, and a record for his height lent elegance; he was marvellous soft technique county. against spin. It brought him 31,914 runs with 67 hundreds

and lasted until 1959, when he retired to coach Middlesex. table and eventually to a share On July 23, 1949, in the aftermath of his Test century

at Lord's and the disappointment of his subsequent omission from the side, Robertson touched heights that no other Middlesex batsman before or since has managed. With Compton and Edrich both on Test duty at Old Trafford, Middlesex travelled to New Road to play Worcestershire, then leading the champion-

George Mann won the toss for the visitors, and despite the early loss of his opening partner Brown for three, Robertson utterly dominated the proceedings for the next six and a half hours, hitting two sixes and 39 fours in an fourth highest number of runs ever scored in a

Middlesex's massive 623 for five was the precursor to a

of the title with Yorkshire. After his innings, so he was fond of telling, Robertson went to his car and discovered a flat tyre. Needing help and with none of his own colleagues to hand, he stood on his considerable dignity and approached the opposition, only to receive the shortest of stirift.

It was Robertson, playing for the Army against the RAF at Lord's in 1944, who was the central figure in one of the most evocative of wartime sporting photographs, lying prone at the crease as a doo-dle bug ceased its chugging overhead and began its descent. Robertson resumed his innings by stepping out of his crease and striking a six into the pavilion. Even then he

Jack Robertson, cricketer, born February 22, 1917; died October

Nic Flessati

Exploring television's new horizons

IC Flessati, who has died of a brain tumour aged 69, spent the whole of his working life at the BBC. He produced about a dozen Horizon films, including ones on early heart transplants, kidney disease, venereal diseases and electronic warfare. His What Time is your Body? on Circadian rhythms won a 1973 Bafta nomination but he regarded Who Built Stonehenge? as the best programme he ever made. A tough and agile intellect, together with a feline sense of humour, made him delightfully stimulating

He was born in Folkestone of an Anglo-Italian family who were trapped in Italy at the outbreak of the second world war. To his delight, Nic found that his great-great-grandfather fought with Garibaldi, and indeed his own first unofficial job was as a 17year-old, running messages between partisans in north-

Elizabeth: God, bless you



ern Italy and the advancing Allied armies towards the end of the war. Much of his secondary education was completed in Italy, although he graduated in history with archaeology and anthropology at University College,

BBC monitoring station at Ca-versham, where he worked as zon, the jewel in the science a report writer (he was fluent | department's crown, and in several languages). From there, he transferred to the Overseas Service, before becoming TV editor at Radio Times. I had founded Tomorrow's World in 1965, and Nic joined the following year as an assistant producer, moving on two years later to the

Towards Tomorrow series. He then became assistant editor of The British Empire series, planning and administering, and also producing the Canadian and West Indies programmes — on sugar and slavery. The 13-part series attracted high viewing figures, letters of complaint from neo-- through which Nic sailed front his antagonists - and

imperialists and bitter internal acrimony within the BBC He appeared on TV to conhis sense of history stood him in excellent stead.

Happily, the best was yet to

gued that Nic was a journalist wedded to the word rather than the picture. But what Nic knew was that the public wanted well-told stories. He produced a professional fu-

at Bletchley Park.

Some purist film-makers ar

sion of words and pictures

which informed and satisfied them many times over. He was a superb documentarist who sought the truth beyond the prevailing fashion. He leaves a wife and three daughters.

Dominic (Nic) Flessati, television producer, born October 2, 1927; died October 4, 1996

Birthdays

John Blashford-Snell. explorer, 60: Elizabeth Connell, opera singer, 50; Bar-bara Craig, archaeologist, 31; Catherine Deneuve, actress, 53; Prof Charlotte Erickson, zon, the jewel in the science department's crown, and historian, 73; Lady Hazel Fox, jurist, 68; Jeff Goldbafter that he travelled all over lum, actor, 44; Sir Derek Jacobi, actor, 58; Doris Les-sing, novelist, 77; Kelvin MacKenzie, former editor, the Sun, 50; Robert Rausch Europe for SOE: Special Oper-ations Executive, in which he of the Enigma codebreakers enberg, pop artist, 71.

Death Notices

Pearson ti Or takeov Or make-c

E to: France

ROBSON, Gladys, on October 1261 efter a long struggle against tailing heath. On the head Social Worker at Hammersmith Hospital, London (RETD 1978). Sadly missed by her sitter Phyllig Oliver and brother-in-law. Funeral according to Castler Practices, at New Southgate Creatorium, Brustwick Park Rd, N13, on 28th October at J.30ppn. Pamily flowers only, but

Jackdaw



Firing lines

1. I WANT to melt in your mouth, not in your hand. 2. Can I borrow a quarter? ('What for?'") I want to call my mom and tell her I just met the girl of my dreams. OR: I want to call your mother and thank her. 3. Is your daddy a thief? "No.") Then how did he steal the sparkle of the stars and put it in your eyes? (Be ready with a snappy answer in case they say "yes.") 4. You're so hot you melt the plastic in my underwear. Would you be my love. buffet? So I can lay you out on the table and take what I

6. Let's go to my place and do the things I'll tell everyone we did anyway. 7. Do your legs hurt from running through my dreams all 8. That outfit would look

great in a crumpled heap on

Bernard Frank . . . he died murmuring a Buddhist sutra

my bedroom floor tomorrow Do you believe in love at first sight, or do I need to walk around the room again? 10. My name's (your name). That's so you know what to

scream. 11. My name's (your name) but you can call me "lover." 12. Can I flirt with you? (Look at his/her shirt label. When they say, "What are you doing?") say checking to see if you were made in heaven. OR: to see if you're the right size.

 All those curves, and me with no brakes. 15. If I told you you had a beautiful body, would you hold it against me? 16. Is it hot in here or is it just

17. Can I have directions? ("To where?") To your heart. 18. Do you know what'd look good on you? Me.

19. If I could rearrange the alphabet, I'd put U and I I miss my teddy bear.

Would you sleep with me? 21. (Lick your finger, then touch you and your about you and I go back to my place and get out of these wet The World's Best (worst) Pick-

up Lines at www.cnwl.igs.net/scorpion/page12.htm Take the hint and run a mile.

Closet queens MELISSA: Mother, I am standing between two Liz Claiborne suits and rows and rows of matching pumps. It's

thrilling. Elizabeth: God bless you, Melissa. Tonight, I'd like to break tradition and come into the closet with you. Do you mind if I take your microphone? Melissa, every morning when I come into this closet I think to myself, I am choosing this pump for my husband because he was born in a Kansas small town and he knows what it means for every American to

put on his shoes in the morn-

ing. Melissa, I hope some day you love a man the way I love Joan: I hope so too.

Joan. When I get dressed, I remember that my husband nay have been poor in mate rial things but was rich in val-ues. And that's what I look for in my clothes — values like honesty, decency, hard work, love of family and patriotism. For the Monday morning Harvard Law School Association Alumnae Committee, I will be wearing this pumpkin Liz Claiborne suit with matching pumps and Monet costume ewellery. Years ago, my husband told me he would rather feed the hungry than give me ewellery, and I wept. Then, for the Tuesday Daughters of the South Garden Luncheon, will be wearing this lovely dress that I wore to my first cotillion in 1954. I hope this dress is a bridge to past Amer-ica. For the Thursday night party at Planet Hollywood, Bruce and Demi have invited a few of their friends to meet us, but we don't expect any of them to come, so I'll be wear-

ing the same Bill Blass I wore

to Charlton Heston's birthday party. For the Friday American

Nic's career began, inauspi-

ciously enough, in 1952 at the

Red Cross Volunteers' Tea, I will be wearing a simple Yves bought downstairs in my apartment complex in Washington. So many American working women have time to nient. For the Saturday Walk With My Husband Along the Potomac, I always wear Amer ican blue jeans. My husband is a genuine war hero and blue jeans are my badge of honour. Wendy Wasserstein imagines Joan Rivers and her daughter. Melissa, following Elizabeth Dole into her closet. Writing in the New Yorker.

Bad start

ERNEST Titman, 54 Broad Street, Middletown. U Suckett 20430 NW 45th Avenue. Kennebunkport, ME 04046-

Dick Hung. Lake Oswego, OR A L Coholic 6409 Springbrook Harry Schmuck, 1201 Bane

Road, NE Mechanicstown. Gladys Butt, 4553 E Palomino Road, Phoenix. IM Boner, Yakima, WA 98902.

M A Colon, 3165 Grandview Avenue, Canon City. Mike Rotch, 124 French Court, Jackson, AL. Real, but unfortunate names. Found at html://pages. prodigy.com/Ridiculous Names.html



Party poopers THE TERM "dinner party" has always been a social and

semantic minefield — how could it not be in a country where a good percentage of the population eats "dinner" at midday and thinks of a "party" as a beery do in a room above a pub?

Put the two words together and, as soon as they are out of your mouth, you have liter-ally classified yourself. It is no coincidence that, in these socially fluid times, most people outside Fulham will dodge the phrase and ask the people to "come round for dinner" or, more probably, "for supper."... Consider getting your

bread - and say, antipasti misti, dripping with olive oil —from a shop attached to a famous restaurant, such as London's Gastrodome. Clarke's, Carluccio's or San Lorenzo. It gives the meal instant cachet and reminds guests of your talent for sourcing". For the modern dinner party compliment is more likely to be about this than your kitchen handiwork. Once, your guests

asked "How did you make this?"; today they ask "Where did you find this?" It's the food equivalent of that wellworn fashion question:

Who's it by? To seem truly of the moment, dinner party food will fall into one of three categories: cucina rustica (Italian designer peasant); nostalgic British (fishcakes, bangers and mash, rice pudding, even stew — so homely) and fusion (also known as Pacific Rim. with key ingredients includ-ing chilli, seaweed, soy, lime and saffron). But don't stick religiously to one kind of food the over-themed meal looks contrived . . . and you're quite likely to to be asked to keep your knife and fork, Continental style. Vogue, the bible of style, sympathises and instructs on the problem of dinner parties.

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk;fax 0171-713 4366: Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Finance Guardian

Red tape slashed to speed flow of private funds

Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley presents the plastic benefits payment card that renders girocheques obsolete to its first customer, Victoria Yemm, from Leonard Stanley, Gloucestershire The card is being launched at 10 post offices in the Strond area. The PFI contract to computer is benefit and pension payments, which could be worth £1 billion over eight years, has been awarded to ICL Pathway.



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Territor or a

Clarke tries to revive PFI

Richard Thomas

tempted to revive its flagging private finance initiative yesterday, promis-ing to slash Whitehali red tape and speed up the flow of private sector cash into pub-

Responding to widespread business criticism of the PFI as bureaucratic, alow and costly, the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, pledged to streamline the contracting

Mr Clarke told the annual conference of the Private Fitened. We have learned. We are taking action. After the revolution comes evolution."

Announcing an alliance British Industry to breathe new life into the initiative — which has constantly failed to cellor pledged standardised contract terms for bidders.

'We want to make sure that no one has to re-invent the wheel when the wheel is al-Mr Clarks said 27 billion of

deals had been agreed with private sector firms to date, compared to £1.5 billion a year ago. "The PFI is already a suc-cess," he said. "Seldom a week goes by without a new

Although the CBI welcomed | Turner warned that while | been permanently woven into | the proposals to simplify the | transport and prisons had | the culture of Whitehall. The the proposals to simplify the PFI bidding process, directoreneral Adair Turner warned igainst using the initiative to justify cuts in state spending, particularly on transport.

"The Government must make a stronger commitment to capital provision. Business is deeply concerned that the PFI is being used as an excuse to cut back." With the Chancellor widely

expected to trim further Whitehall's spending on in-frastructure in his budget next month, Mr Turner said the PFI must not be used to "The PFI offers a better value lunch, not a free one,"

he told the conference. Echoing a spring CBI fitted into European Union report which listed the fail- procurement procedures. ings of the initiative, Mr

transport and prisons had been fruitful areas for the PFI, health and defence

by private money.

The success of the initiative is in the balance," he said. "Particularly in health, it has faced significant prob-lems with projects badly logiammed.

"Some people in these sec-tors are beginning to lose faith, bidders withdrawing and projects going nowhere." Mr Clarke responded with a list of new cost-saving mea-sures, including advice on moving money in and out of PFI projects, guidance on measuring outputs, and clear pointers on how the initiative He insisted the PFI had

Initiative battle over the principles has been won. We are now tackfails the the practicalities," he test of

"If there is a Labour government, they won't change

But Alastair Darling, shadow Treasury chief secre-tary, said the Government had falled to make the most of private sector capital because of an ideological objection to setting overall objectives. priorities, has to decide whether it wants a new road or a new hospital," he said. Mr Darling also warned against the PFI being used as

tive was seen as a way of providing a new economic direction, looking fresh nique by getting borrowing off the Treasury's belance and generally jollying everyone along, writes Richrd Thomas. But the PFI soon outgrew

years on, the problems have multiplied. The initiative became impossibly amhitious: current policy is for every single public capi-tal project to be PFI-tested to see if the private sector can do it better.

On the face of it, this sounds sensible. In reality, as the Confederation of British Industry and the

viability

ORN in the dark days after the pound's ejec-tion from the ERM,

British Industry and the Labour Party have pointed out, the result is a waste of both private and public sec-tor resource on projects that are clearly unsuitable, biggest problem is not the especially small schemes. PFI itself—it is the excuse the CBI's suggestion of a it provides.

Even in relatively straightforward schemes.

many potential contractors find the red tape involved prohibitive, and bidding costs alone can run into millions of pounds.

Martin Laing, chairman of the Laing construction group, has flexcely criticised the bureaucracy in-voived in a bid. 'Rule and specifications seem to change all the time and vary from development to development, even in the same department," he said. These are the kind of con-cerns which the Chancellor

cult to allocate risk between public and private sectors. If the government

But the most damning criticism of the PFI is that it is being used as smoke-screen behind which Mr Clarke is taking the axe to his investment budget. The

Cowdrays can stave off Sky



Mark Milner

BRITISH Sky Broadcast-ing's shares command a price-earnings ratio of a whisker over 50, not quite stratospheric but pretty fancy for all that. It is little surprise, therefore, to find analysts speculating that the

lysts speculating that the company might want to use such highly rated paper to make acquisitions.

From BSkyB on the predatory prowl, it is but a small step for the speculative to see Pearson as possible prey. It is not, after all, that many years since Rucert Murdoch's emsince Rupert Murdoch's em-pire held a 20 per cent stake in the company. But would BSkyB, where Mr Murdoch has 40 per cent, really want to launch a full bid for the Fi-nancial Times-to-Madame Tussauds combine?

Certainly there are parts of Pearson that Mr Murdoch would like; not least the television interests (Thames TV, Grundy, 24 per cent of Chan-nel 5) and the FT itself. Nor would be be short of buyers E10 million floor under PFI would he be short of buyers projects was rejected for large chunks of the rest of the business.

But those very attractions could as easily been seen in the opposite light. Though it would not cost him much sleep, Mr Murdoch could find himself at loggerheads with both broadcast and print media regulators over those parts of Pearson he might like to keep. If selling the rest would be easy, that would be reflected in the price. Analysts are already talking bout £10 a share for Pearson.

Such a price tag might not (quite) put it on a BSkyB-style rating, but a 28 billion allpaper offer from BSkyB would significantly reduce sought to address yester day. Only time will tell whether the reforms will translate into more hard cash, but there are two fundamental issues which will the noises emanating from the company to what he might regard as an unwell-translate into more hard cash, but there are two fundamental issues which will the noises emanating from the company of the company to what he might regard as an unwell-translate into more hard cash, but there are two fundamental issues which will the noises emanating from the company to what he will be company to what he will be

Even so, Pearson's new chief executive, Majorie Scar-dino, will know that the accepts a significant slice of group remains in play. The the risk, the incentive Cowdray family holding coustructure is destroyed. pled with the City's tradition Worse, it might end up on of giving new management at the PIR. east a short period to prove Itself should provide a breathing space. Short could well be the operative word however. with the proof to be found in unlocking just the sort of shareholder value the analysts are scenting in a poss-ible BSkyB bid.

Calling Herr Sid

RITISH Gas's "Sid" Campaign may have en-capsulated the British ment's drive to recruit the small investor, but it was the earlier privatisation of BT which was the real water-shed. More than a decade on, Germany has reached the same point with the sale of thing up to DM30 a share, the German group is scarcely a give-away, though most analysts yesterday reckoned the price range was fair enough. The German group has a relatively low number of lines per employee, which suggests there is considerable scope for cost-cutting — though get-ting staff numbers down sig-nificantly (management has an agreement with the unions for cuts of 25 per cent) is

likely to be expensive. Competition is likely to be fierce. Several German utilities and their foreign allies are already getting in position to mount a challenge once the German market is price cut for business users already announced by Deut-sche Telekom indicates, how-ever, that it is not about to give much ground without a

hard fight.
But the importance of the privatisation is not confined to Germany's telecommunications market. The strategic nature of the business being sold and the sheer scale of the flotation means that the pri-vatisation team will have to attract widespread support from the German public. authorities cannot afford either a flop or too many shares in foreign hands.

That, in turn, means a big cultural change for small German investors, who tradi-tional prefer bonds to equi-ties. The yield could, therefore, be crucial to the issue. According to Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, the price range for the shares implies a gross yield of between 5.71 per cent and 6.79 per cent. That is well above the average for the German stock market but looks less generous compared with the current redemption yield on the benchmark 10year government bond of just under 6 per cent. Expect

Boris's gas gift

PRESIDENT Boris Yelt-sin's live-on-television adviser Alexander Lebed may have had the cold war Kremlinologists dusting off their skille hut alsowhere Russia is continue to dog the PFI. BSkyB suggest it will not demonstrating a new approach it will remain diffiproach to old probler

Take Gazprom, the country's giant gas company. Mr Yeltsin has just signed a decree aimed at cutting the amount it, and other energy companies, were owed by their domestic customers. In Gazprom's case, that amounts to the tidy sum of \$9 billion (25.7 billion). In the past Gazsuch debts at a discount, or settling for less than face value, because it had to pay tax as if they had been paid in

Now the government has agreed that in future Gazprom will pay tax only on what its gets for the debt, not the actual amount owed, provided what it does get is above the cost of production and delivery. As a conse-quence Gazprom will be able to boost its cash flow by discounting debts owing to it. No doubt the international Germany has reached the same point with the sale of beutsche Telekom. At any-duly impressed.

Pearson tipped for takeover or make-over

Lisa Buckingham

DEARSON, the company that owns the Financial Times, Penguin Books, Madame Tussauds and Thames TV, yesterday saw its stock market value rise by £210 million to more than £4.16 billion on speculation that the company will be forced to dismember itself or face a hostile takeover Rupert Murdoch's UK tele-

vision arm, BSkyB, said yesterday it was not in talks to bid for Pearson but City sources said the company had considered a takeover. Mr Murdoch's News Corporation built a substantial and threatening stake in Pearson during

Pearson has been at the centre of takeover speculation more recently after Gerry Robinson, the chairman of Granada, disclosed he had run a slide-rule over the media and entertainment combine more than a year

Although Mr Robinson — whose group's TV interests

include Granada, LWT, a stake in Yorkshire Tyne-Tees and shares in BSkyB, of which he is chairman — opt-ed to acquire Forte, City ana-lysts reckon he would still dearly love to buy Pearson's television interests. In addition to Thames, Pear-

son owns Grundy, which makes the soap opera Neigh-bours, and has a holding in Channel 5. Shares in Pearson Channel 5. Shares in Fearson
— in which the founding Cowdray family is thought to speak
for 20 per cent — ran up by 34p
to 730½p yesterday, helping to
push the FTSE 100 up by 20
points to a new high of 4073.1.

Analysis said an all-out takeover by BSkyB would be likely to fall foul of cross-media ownership rules.

The issue of shares to buy Pearson would also dilute Mr Murdoch's 40 per cent holding, reducing his ability to assimilate the now hugely profitable satellite company into a global TV husiness

Pearson's announcement last week that Marjorie Scardino will take over as chief ex-ecutive was expected to pro-vide a breathing space for the

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Singapore 2.20 South Africa 7.06 Spain 200.30 Sweden 10.40 Switzerland 1,9665 Australia 1.8325 Austria 10.76 Belgium 49.03 Carjada 2.0950 Cyprus 0.72 France 8.0275 Germany 2.3840 Greece 375.00 Frong 11.99 india 55.76 haly 2,397 Malta 0.5620 Netherlands 2.8750 New Zealand 2.17 Norway 10,13 Portugal 240.85 Saudi Arabia 5.83

Fig. Treasury provided a armodic breakthrough in September when a 2200 million contract was awarded or renovate the building and large beak space to the mandains. Littree provides a building and large beak space to the mandains. Littree provides a building and provides a building of provides a building and provides the PFI or 2200 million. ETH the determine day, 3 buildings training contact worth 2120 million has been agreed. Little presion of a forget amounted assessment in Greenwich, South-east London, was considered under the PFI or 242 million. EThe planned attractment of London's fragings Northern Line Judge trains in them, garden out for £400 million.

Ci Unity one deal for hempital construction Cl Only one deal for heaptime construction has been signed, for a 2170 million unit to Northch. This year builders Books Taylor Woodrow, Termac and hadaligar House leave bloandorted bids, citing bureautratis delays. Cl A 2150 million deal to replace comparensed Matternal Insurance records, wen by Andersen Consetting, will miss im deadline.

Cl Replacement of 40 construing trainer on South cest "misery lines" statice because of uneasonable? government expectations. Cl Spending controls the good to curb the "loony left" have previous focus allowed. One 215 million deal has residual.

Budgie goes belly-up in the US

Jan King

UDGIS the Little Heli-copter, the cartoon cre-ation of the Duchess of York, has flopped in America, according to Sleepy Kids, the company which owns the rights to the character.

Shares of Sleepy Kids went into a tailspin yesterday after the company warned that lower revenues from the US, due largely to "uncertainties" regarding Budgie, would hit

profits this year.

The statement, which was put out after shares in Sleepy Kids had already started failing, wiped off almost a quarter of the group's market delayed start to a merchandis trade publications, Mr Powell opportunities."

settled 6½p lower at 20p.

Apart from the damage to Sleepy Kids, the news will come as a huge blow to the Duchess, whose debts are ru-moured to run into several

million pounds. Earlier this year, she was reported to have signed a 23 million deal with an Ameri-can investment group based on Budgie's future sales in the US, but then suffered a setback when ITV said it had turned down a fourth series featuring the character.

In a statement, Sleepy Kids admitted that Budgie had failed to perform as expected Fox Children's Network, as in the US, mainly because of a had been reported in various

value. The shares eventually | ing programme by its Ameri- | said Sleepy Kids was yet to settled 6½p lower at 20p. | can marketing agent. | exploit the character in im-It said the agent previously responsible for Budgle's marketing, Launey Hachmann Harris, had filed a Chapter 11

voluntary petition for relief under US bankruptcy laws and a legal delay was ex-pected before a new agent could be appointed. But Martin Powell, chair-man of Sleepy Kids, said the company remained "confi-dent" of Budgie's ability to continue contributing to prof-

its over the longer term.
Insisting that Budgle had
not been "dropped" by the
Fox Children's Network, as

portant markets like Germany and Japan.
He said Sleepy Kids had already sold the Budgle TV rights to some 70 countries,

not all of which had screened the shows yet, while the company was talking to ITV about a possible fourth series for broadcast in 1998. Mr Powell added: "Inevita-

bly the marketing of Budgie in the US has been severely disrupted by our agent filing for Chapter 11 in that territory. It is very frustrating to have such a success on coast-to-coast US television, only

Waterstone fathers new concept: the Daisy & Tom chain

Dan Atkirerou

IRST there was Quadro-phenia, the album that became a film that spawned a (different) album of the film. Then there was Moonraker, the novel that led to a film so divergent from the a nim so divergent from the novel that a novelisation of the film was called for. And who could forget Michael Jackson's multiplying videos of the making of the making of Thriller?

But with his latest ven-

But with his latest venture, Tim Waterstone, founder of the eponymous classy bookshop chain, threatens to outdo them all. Daisy is his two-year-old (previously) became.

Confused? No need to be. who staked his bookshops year-old son of Christopher Daisy & Tom is Mr Water-Thomson, of the DC Thom-stone's latest venture, son and risk-capitalist bar".

son publishing family. Put them together and you get Daisy & Tom, Mr Waterstone's new, all-under-one-roof children's shop venture, backed DC Thomson. backed in part by Once the shops are open

for business, Daisy and for will become characters in their own right, appearing in books and allied products to be sold through the chain that bears their

In other words, Miss Waterstone and Master Thom-son are children who became a shop who became children's characters to be sold through the shop they



Quester. Mr Waterstone cashed out of the bookshop chain in 1993, selling it to WH Smith, wrote a novel (A Passage of Lives; Headline Review, 1996) and is now preparing to do to kiddle retailing what he did to the book trade. Daisy & Tom, whose first branch will open in London in the middle of next year,

will be unusual in many regards, not least in that it will unite parents and children in appreciation of its ending of the trail from toy shop to clothes shop to children's bookshop to games kit shop. Everything for children

EU's transit rules 'create open road for freight fraud'

Dam Atkirmon

UROPEAN freight and transport companies are picking up a £8 billion-plus bill for fraud perpetrated within the EUs tax and custo customs officers at the toms system, according to the International Chamber of

Britain's freight forwarders lione face costs of up to £500 million. Transit procedures inside

the EU "appear structured so as to actually encourage the proliferation of fraud". Eric Ellen, the ICC's head of commercial crime services, said. Because the costs of making good evaded duties fell on freight forwarders and other guarantors, EU member states had little incentive to

pursue the fraudsters.

He said: "The proliferation of fraud is directly related to the implementation of a frontier-free [EU] ... Frontier checks show when and in which country a cargo was re-routed. Therefore, without frontier checks, a national police force is not able to establish if a crime occurred in its respective jurisdiction.

The criminals have real integrity and operation.

the system means they can perpetrate these crimes without the fear of prosecution."
According to the ICC, there are two main types of transit fraud: failure to present goods

goods' destination and falsifi-cation of documents, using stolen or counterfeit customs The EU has estimated the total cost of such crime on each member state at 750 million ecus (£590 million) in 1990-94, but the ICC points out

this figure does not include claims pending and claims made after 1994. "A key element of the problem is the structure of the liability," Mr Ellen said. "The party with the biggest eco-nomic interest — the buyer and/or seller that hold the cargo interest — is not legally responsible, while the party that is not morally responsible, ie, the freight for-warder, is legally respon-

sible."
The ICC suggests a package of reforms, including vetting of all parties involved in tranthey meet high standards of

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Deutsche Telekom set for £31bn float

Largest privatisation cuts BT down to size, report Nicholas Bannister and Julia Giertz

will be worth up to a share. £31.35 billion when it He sa month in Europe's largest pri-

German and British analysts expect that shares in Deutsche Telekom will be priced at the top end of the DM25 (£10.20) to DM30 price range announced yesterday by the German state-owned telecommunications group.

The shares go on sale next

month, with trading expected to start around November 20. About two-thirds of the shares will be on offer to pritions in Germany, The remaining third is being split between the main foreign markets. Between 8 per cent and 12 per cent are expected to be sold in the UK, mainly to institutional investors.

At DM30 a share, the group — the world's third-largest te-lecom business — would be worth £31.35 billion, overshadowing British Telecom, which has a market value of £32.6 billion.

Dealers said that the group's shares were already being quoted on the unofficial grey market at up to DM39, 30 per cent above the top end of the indicative price range announced yesterday.

The sale of 500 million new

shares, representing 20 per cent of the enlarged group, is designed to attract private investors in Germany who have traditionally shunned shares in favour of more secure bonds and bank savings.

A spokesman for Deutsche Telekom said that, at DM30, the shares would have a yield of between 8.5 per cent and 10 per cent over three years. outstripping the return available from bank savings and

Pierre Drach, head of Frankfurt-based analysts independent Research, said that the price was high but fair. debts and paying its promised He expected the final price to high dividend," he said.

EUTSCHE Telekom may be the biggest but it is far from the only

state-owned asset where

government has hoisted the

for sale" sign.
As the German telecom-

munications group was in-

dicating the privatisation price range, the Italian au-

thorities started the sale of a £2.5 billion slice of the en-

Italy is also looking to sell its near-two-thirds

stake in the country's tele-

coms holding company, Stet, with a likely price tag

of around £6 billion and is

hoping to squeeze the deal

in between the flotation of

Deutsche Telekom and the

work, and Rome airport.

ergy company, ENI.

Mark Willyor

Europe bristles

with sale signs

EUTSCHE Telekom | be set at about DM29 or DM30

He said: "On one hand, Deutsche Telekom is not comand international public offers because it has a leading position in the German mar-ket, with an enormous ISDN network. On the other hand you have its enormous debts of DM100 billion."

Mr Drach said the group risked losing market share as the German telecom market is opened to full competition. It had already lost part of the

mobile phone market. The proposed 1997 dividend yield of between 5.7 per cent and 6.9 per cent is expected to appeal to private investors, who have been courted for some months by Deutsche Te-

lakom.
The company said yesterday that more than three million individuals had registered an interest, qualifying for discounts on the purchase of up to 300 shares. The offer will raise between

£5.1 billion and £6.1 billion, which will be used to reduce the group's huge debt, largely incurred during the modern-isation of the East German telecom network after unification in 1990. Deutsche Telekom, like its

counterpart in France, is expected to face flerce opposition from the unions as it attempts to reduce its workforce. The German group is planning to lose 30,000 jobs by the end of the century, to leave it with just 170,000 employees.
Dieter Kauffmann, head of

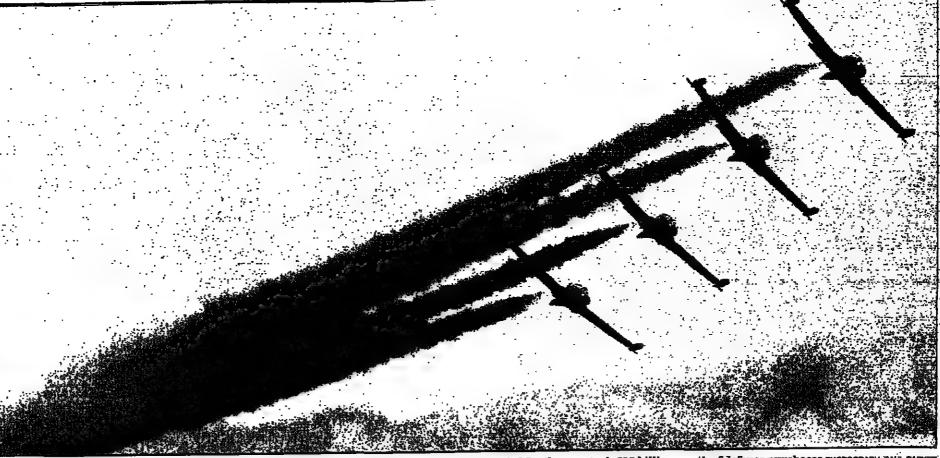
a lobby group for small share-holders, said an offer price of around DM20 to DM25 would attract more private investors. "Given Deutsche Telekom's need to lower prices and the high cost of dismissing staff, it is not quite clear whether it will achieve the earnings in 1997 for reducing

German plans are not confined to Deutsche Tele-

kom. Postbank, the post office savings bank, has also been earmarked for

privatisation, for example.

Some of the states, such as Baden-Württemberg, are



IBM hails an American recovery

Wark Trun in New York

LAT revenues in Europe led to a slight drop in third-quarter profits from a year ago for IBM, the world's largest computer-maker but Wall Street still cheered the results.

All regions showed a gain in sales, except Europe. Revenue increased by 14 per cent in North Amer ica, 12 per cent in Latin Profits were \$1.2 billion

(£770 million) for the three months ended September

30, compared \$1.3 billion a year ago. Wall Street was pleased with IBM's figures because rud of estimates.

Analysts came away en-

couraged from a briefing with Richard Thomas, IBM's chief financial officer, who gave an upbeat asment of the company's performance. "We are very pleased, we think we have many, many strong businesses," Mr Thomas told a select group of big investors and analysts.

IBM's share price rose \$4.

year, reflecting continuing investor skittishness despite being nursed back to financial health by Louis

Although IBM's fortunes have improved markedly from three years ago, when Big Blue was in danger of sinking under its own bureaucratic weight, inves tors still wonder about the company's staying power in the Internet era. IBM said that its revenue

from computer hardware, including mainframes and 3 per cent, to more than personal computers, rose \$133 in early afternoon 8 per cent to \$8.4 billion.

with trading. IBM's stock price | Equipment sales account go. | has bounced around this for nearly half of overall company revenue. IBM's results reflect brisk sales of a new, cheaper mainframe computer. Big Blue needs strong sales on the new model because profit margins are thinner for the new, less expensive ma-

timism about IBM's per-sonal computer sales and prospects. He said that IBM was making a determined push to win accounts from small- and medium-sized businesses, where the po-tential for strong profits

ended September 30, IBM's operating profits fell 10.8 per cent to \$3.8 billion, compared with profits of \$4.3 billion a year ago. Rev enue grew 5.6 per cent to \$52.8 billion.

• USAir, British Airways American partner, yester-day reported third-quarter profits of \$67.7 million, up \$43.1 million on a year before - exceeding Wall Street predictions and maintaining the carrier's recent resurgen Revenue of \$2 million set

a third-quarter record. aided by strong traffic on international routes.

Birthday treat for former Tarmac chief

Pauline Springett

OEN LOVERING. mer chief operating offi-cer of Tarmac, is heading a 290 million acquisition of Birthdays Greeting Cards.

Mr Lovering will take over
as chairman from the company's founder. Ron Wood, who is to step down from the board but remain as a consultant. Mr Lovering said he was looking for a new commercial

director. Bury-based Birthdays has more than 330 shops, 50 franchised outlets, and 2,000 staff. Mr Lovering said he planned to open between 120 and 150 new shops in the next three to four years, with a view to

floating the business at the and of that period:
"We think it is a very successful high growth retail business with plenty of potential. There are not many businesses like this with margins of 10 per cent to 11 per cent," said Mr Lovering.

The finance for the deal is being provided by Prudential Ventures and Schroder Ven-tures. Most of the \$90 million will go to Mr. Wood and his family, although it is under stood they plan a substantial reinvestment in the business. As well as the retail stores Birthdays owns a wholesale business and a cash and carry operation. Operating profits were £11 million in the year to June this year, with sales of £99.3 million.

About two-thirds of Birthdays' sales come from greet-ings cards. It also sells giftvrapping, tags and giftware.

Mr Lovering left the Tar-mac construction group in August with a 2287,000 payout. Backed by a group of sup-porters which included Schroder Ventures and Prudential, he then made a bid for Tarmac's housebuilding division, but was outgurned by Wimpey. At the time Mr Lovering said his backers had asked him to continue his search for an acquisition.

Mr Lovering had been at

Tarmac for two years when he quit to make his bid. He extensive experience of retailing, having joined Tar-mac after five years at the Sears stores group.

Prior to that he was in the retailing division of food and drinks giant Grand Metropol-

Greycoat fights rebels

REYCOAT, the property company, has vowed to defeat moves by UK Active Value Fund, its second largest shareholder, to force the sale of its £500 million portfolio. Greycoat, which owns

around 20 London properties, yesterday received a requisi-UK Active Value — run by South Africans Julian Tregar and Brian Myerson — to con-vene an extraordinary general meeting of the company. At the meeting, UK Active fight them. 'It doesn't make Value will call for the wholesale disposal of the portfolio, a market that is rising. We've break-up move.

which includes the prestige Embankment Place develop-ment at Charing Cross, London, and for proceeds to be distributed to shareholders.

Greycoat's chief executive,
Peter Thornton, said the company expected the rebels to fall in their attempt to break

up its portfolio as Greycoat

had no plans to sell any properties.
Mr Thornton said the calls from UK Active Value, which | the receiver less than thre owns around 10.6 per cant of years ago, but tried to block Greycoat's shares, were an the £79 million sale of one of "unwelcome, annoying and costly distraction", and he promised the company would

gramme under way and it's too early to consider selling." But Mr Myerson, who resigned as a non-executive director of Greycost earlier this year, insisted last night that he expected UK Active Value's proposals to attract "considerable support" from other shareholders. UK Active Value rescued

Greycoat from the clutches of Greycoat's London proper-ties, at 151 Buckingham Palace Road, in May.

Greycoat shares jumped 4½p to 147½p on news of the

Eurotunnel wields axe

planning to sell shares in their banks and breweries. UROTUNNEL, the debt-laden Channel tunnel operator, will today an-nounce that it is cutting 657 In France, the government has a long privatisa-tion list. It has just indi-cated that it would like to sell the defence and elec-tronics group Thomson to iobs from its Le Shuttle opera tion — over a fifth of the comthe Lagardère combine and

of full-time staff jobs will also

be lost, although a Eurotun-

would dearly love to unload the Credit Lyonnais bank as well as the computermaker Bull. Also slated for sale are Assurances Générales, France, the remainder of carmaker Renault and Air discuss the job losses.

pencilled-in privatisation of France Telecom. Spain, meanhwile, is Other features of Italy's plans to roll back the state deeply involved in the pri-vatisation of utilities, as is sector include Autostrade Portugal, which plans to sell just under half of the - which owns much of the electricity group EDP next country's motorway netnel spokeswoman said last night that the company would be looking to redeploy most of retrained or redeployed She said that the cuts were

part of a drive to streamline Le Shuttle's openion

pany's entire workforce. Eurotunnel, which un-veiled plans to restructure its £9.1 billion debt mountain two weeks ago, will meet with redeployed where members of its works councils in Calais later today to possible¹

The jobs going — which will be split between British and French workers - are largely those of consultants, and other staff employed on short-term contracts. It is expected that a number

'Full-time workers will be retrained or

allow it to compete more effectively with Channel

The spokeswoman said: 'We are hooing to make a formal presentation to our works councils tomorrow, and we'd rather tell them

where possible."

The job losses are expected to be phased in over the next

12 to 14 months. News of the cuts follows an innouncement by Eurotun-

nel earlier this year, of a major cost-cutting pro-gramme which will see the group's remaining London and Paris-based staff moved to Folkestone and Calais. Although Eurotunnel has fought an increasingly suc-

cessful battle against the ferry operators, snatching almost half the market, it has come under intense pressure from its 225 bankers to slash costs in a programme to make the operation profitable. Shares in Eurotunnel closed up a penny at 941/2p.

News in brief

BP fuels £1.6bn Shanghai venture

BP yesterday announced plans for a \$2.5 billion (£1.6 billion) . ioint venture in China, its biggest investment in the country to date, in association with Shanghai Petrochemical Co: RP has .. signed a letter of intent to set up an ethylene plant in Shanghai, expected to produce some 650,000 tonnes of athylene each year. BP, which has been doing business in China since 1973, said talks between both parties on the possibility of producing certain ethylene derivative products were also well advanced. - Jan King

Bass develops Czech thirst

BASS, the brewery and leisure group which is in the process of acquiring a half share in Carlsberg Tetley, said yesterday it would probably increase its shareholding in the Prague-based brewer Prazske Pivovary to 51 per cent next month. The British company already owns 46 per cent of Prazke, which it started to acquire in 1993, and has an option on another 5 per cent in the brewer, which is one of the Czech Republic's four market leaders, with brands such as Staropramen, Mestan and Branik. — Lisa Buckingham

Vodafone rings up 1 million

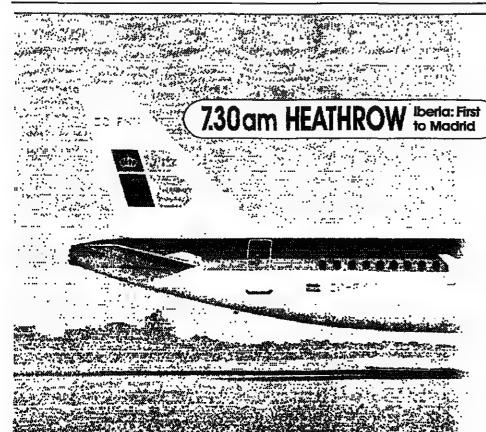
VODAFONE yesterday said it had signed up the millionth sub-scriber for its digital mobile phone service, the first of the UK operators to do so in the flerce battle between four competitors -Vodafone, Cellnet, Orange and One-3-One. — Nicholas Bannister

Burton in Racing Green

BURTON, the retail group, is paying £19 million to buy Racing Green, a casual wear mail-order and retail business. The com-pany said it was issuing 2.69 million new shares to raise about £4 million of the purchase price. Shares in the company rose by 3½p to 154½p on the news. Racing Green will be managed by the group's home shopping division. — Lisa Buckingham

Dresdner detects fraud

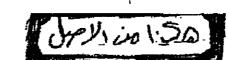
DRESDNER Bank, the German owner of British-based invest-ment bank Kleinwort Benson, yesterday said it had lost DM4 mil-lion (£1.6 million) as a result of false accounting by an employee in its bond-dealing operation. Dresdner, which has dismissed the employee without notice, said its internal risk department had uncovered the discrepancy at the end of August. The bank said the employee had conducted false accounting in his trading book. possibly to present better profits, but added it was "proud" it had uncovered the fault so quickly. — Ian King



We've got more time for you

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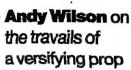




called Daryl Powell. Dug up by an archaeologist's trowel. He likes to think he's young like us, Drawing his pension and free rides on

Such contributions to the Welsh poetic tradition may have earned Rowland Phillips the title Bard of Bridgend, but they have done little for his Antipodean tour

the bus."





Waiting game for budding bard

DYLAN THOMAS he room-mate in PNG, Bernard them knows why, but the is not. Thomas's Dwyer, has been preserved rhyming slang for dregs is no his return in the defeat by poems were not for posterity: Dwyer had it favourite. Yet today Phillips a New Zealand XIII last Tuesbinned by hotel clean typed and has sent a copy to will be battling with his fel-Maoris at Whangarei today.

So Rowland Phillips is, one assumes, the best Welsh poet to in a training session in Singa-

entroper.

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per cons MAGE IN STREET ain on a rugby league tour.
It was a week in Papua New which inspired or rather drove Phillips to verse. His first effort, My Cyst, was a reflection on the long-standing facial injury which became infected after his Test debut in Lea and which the long-standing facial injury which became infected after his Test debut in Lea and which like the lattices and linking to his money stolen from a botel safe in Fiji. Phillips wrote: "If you think your life is dire, spare a thought for Bernard Dwyer."

The Bard of Bridgend's next debut in Lae and ruled him out of the two games in Fiji. The Lampshade Man was on Powell, who at 31 is the oldest similar lines, but both poems have gone missing during the Lions' stay in Auckland, with

Fortunately My Friend Ber-

ers. But Thomas would not his wife in St Helens to be have tackled the New Zealand framed.

have represented Great Brit- pore midway through the squad's marathon journey. Then he suffered chronic Guinea at the start of the tour | diarrhoea and finally he had

> poem was Daryl the Dinosaur, the study above of Daryi player in the party, a week older than Phillips. Unlike Powell, established

as a centre in the Test team, Phillips has found himself lumped with the midweek nard, a lament for the tribulations on tour of Phillips's the Ham and Eggers; none of

favourite. Yet today Phillips will be battling with his fel-low props Brian McDermott, Steve Molloy and Neil Har-mon to earn a place on the bench in Friday's second

day, he is still in the thoughts of the coach Phil Larder as an "impact" forward. With two years to run on his contract with Working-

ton, for whom he will play in Phillips's selection for the the First Division next sumtour smacked of tokenism to mer after an off-season stint

Phillips has been lumped with the tourists' Ham and Eggers

both Wales and Cumbria. He | with Treorchy, Phillips was the only player chosen from the Super League strug-glers Workington, the club be glers Workington, the club ne joined from Warrington two years after moving north from Neath with Allan Bateman.

Bateman.

"I played a couple of games for Treorchy in the back row before the tour and will go back to them as soon as we Phillips,

eclipses Scott Quinnell, Paul Moriarty and David Young as

earned him a Test place and, get home," says Phillips,

whose family live in Neath | Salford centre Nathan "But league is my main sport | McAvoy, captain of the now." He may yet join South | Under-19 Academy side also Wales if the Super League in-vites that club to compete in 1998; if not, this will almost certainly be his international wan-song, eight years after

his first rugby union tour of New Zealand with Wales. Phillips has yet to start a game on tour and will again be a substitute against the Maoris today, McDermott and Molloy, excluded from the first Test defeat against New Zealand on Friday after playing in Fiji, are in the starting ine-up.

The Lions are spoilt for choice in the forwards, with Harmon and Dave Bradbury also kept on the bench, but Larder's options in the threequarters have been seriously limited by knee injuries that have caused Joey Hayes and Jason Critchley to be sent

in New Zealand, as a substi-tute, with Sheffield's Keith Senior switching to the wing. Senior needs to impress to retain his place for the second

Test in Palmerston North.
Adrian Morley, who was harshly sin-binned five minutes into his Test debut, will also start today, but the most significant selection is that of Karl Hammond at stand-off. He has alternated between stand-off and loose forward on tour before being forced out to centre by the injuries to Hayes and Critchley in the second half of the game

against the President's side. Hammond impressed in all three positions and today he will wear No. 6, with Tulsen Tollett, a specialist half-back, at centre — the strongest indication yet that Hammond is pressing lestyn Harris for the Test stand-off position.

SPORTS NEWS 13

Racing

Benny The Dip has first class claims in Post

ENNY THE DIP, American-owned and bred, is bookmakers' the bookmakers' favourite to silence the combined guns of Godolphin and Henry Cecil in the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster on

While the £75,000 race could yet decide the champion trainer's title — Cecil runs Besiege and Godolphin have supplemented Asas and Medaaly at a cost of £30,000 — Benny The Dip, named after a Damon Runyon character, has the form in the book. Landon Knight's colt had Besiege two lengths back in third when he won the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot last month. Acting on that evidence, Hill's make the John

Gosden-trained juvenile 2-1. Coral go 7-4 and the Tote 13-8. Asas and Medaaly are bracketed on 8-1 with Coral along with Poteen, another supplementary entry. But Poteen, a tidy winner on his debut at Haydock for Luca

Cumani. Sunbeam Dance, Godolphin's only runner yesterday, made no show in the Tote Silver Tankard at Pontefract, leaving his trainer Saeed bin Suroor £50,000 behind Cecil after last Saturday's tumultu-

ous events. Clan Ben could edge Cecil further ahead after the Spin-ney Conditions Stakes at Chepstow today, but at level weights the Mark Johnston-trained Celestial Key (3.00)

racing on fast ground. In the belief that today's going will bring out the best in him, John Dunlop's colt is napped in the Richard Holder Handigan

Handicap.
His stable companion Mawared (5.00) made a promising return to action when third behind Present Arms at Leicester last week The latter has been well backed for next month's November Handicap — he was cut from 10-1 to 7-1 favourite by Coral yesterday — and Mawared can give the form a

boost here. Britain's Breeders' Cup challenge got off the ground yesterday when the ninestrong team, spearheaded by leading miler Mark Of Esteem, flew out of Stansted for

Woodbine, Toronto.
The team face up to 48 hours in quarantine but are likely to take their first track exercise tomorrow morning provided they clear the rou-tine blood tests which are taken on arrival.

Woodbine track has been hit by a week of almost non-stop rain, but racecourse publicity director Bruce

Walker predicts pefect ground for Saturday. "It's soft at the moment but not as soft as European runners are used to. The forecast is for sun with wind on Friday and this course really drains well, the best of any track in North America.

"You could hear the horses squishing round it this morn-ing but the surface will really

weights the Mark Johnston-trained Celestial Key (3.00) should have the edge.

Nilgiri Hills (4.00) has proved expensive to follow.
but he has done most of his the Mile from 11-8.

Sparrow repeats call for tax cut

Wa month away Levy Board chairman Sir John Sparrow has repeated the call for betting duty to be cut to 5

In response to calls for duty to be slashed to mitigate the damage caused to the racing industry by the National Lot-tery, Kenneth Clarke reduced

TTH the Budget just over | the rate from 7.75 per cent to a month away Levy | 6.75 in last November's Budget, a move that received a lukewarm welcome. Of the 1.75 per cent cut

called for, I per cent would be passed on to off-course punt-ers via a reduction in bookpassed on to racing via the

Chepstow runners and riders

4.00 NEGER HILLS (max)

Raing, Sell. + Demotes bilaines, Serve High matthers invested up to 1m. 1,30 mm person harmer filters stands (DIV I) 270 Tr C1,251 5 ARAPI (20) M Prescott 8-11

D ATMAR (18) P Wahers 5-11

Q CATMAR (18) 1 Gooden 5-11

Q CATMAR (18) 1 Gooden 5-11

Q CHER (18) 1 Gooden 5-11

G CHER (18) 1 Gooden 5-11

G CHER (18) M Blombard 5-11

LONGLY HEART (14) D Chappel 5-11 fors 12 TOP PORM TIPE: By Valenties S, Arapi 7, Venetine Scane 6 Batting: 5-2 My Valentins, 5-1 Sestop (St., 6-1 Comic Opera, 5-1 Arapi, Mastricosh, 14-1 Octobing, Cairia, 16-1 Gugins, Nick Ol Time lenetian Scene, 10-1 Atrob., 12-1 16 maners

AFFER HOURS O franch Davis 8-11 PRES. AS A MIND M Channes 8-11 FREE AS A BEST M Cleannes 8-11
20 SET TOKISH (27) D Cheppel 8-11
20 SET TOKISH (27) D Cheppel 8-11
20 SET STOKISH (27) D Cheppel 8-11
20 SECA MAIDEN (14) P Hayward 8-11
20 SECA MAIDEN (14) P Hayward 8-11
20 SECA MAIDEN (24) H Cardy 8-11
21 WARY CRU (44) H Cardy 8-11
21 WARY CRU (44) H Cardy 8-11
21 SECAMBERDA (85) P Webber 8-11
845 BOYAK, ORCHED (14) R HERNON 8-11
22 SECAMBERDA (45) P Cleadel-Hym 8-1 20154 BOYAL ORICHED (145) R Hermon 8-11
214 26 STREEBOSA (68) P Chepple-Hyam 8-11
215 TECHNOLOLOGE M. South 8-11
216 0 WOODLAND NYMPH (207) D Marray Street 6-11
TOP FORM TIPE: Summarges 8, Moyal Orobid 7, Seft Yolon 6
84thing 6-2 Summarges 7.4 Technology TOP FORM TIPE: Seminarous 3, Royal Orchid 7, Oct Yolica 5

betting 5-2 Seminarous, 7-2 Technicolour, 6-1 Royal Orchid, 3-1 Eliza, 10-1 Free As A Bird, Woodland Nymph, 12-7 Gift Golsen, 30-1 Mary Cull, Golden Goldens

2.30 ADMILL DAY .. AND APPROVE CHALLENGE HANDICAP 77 12.378 30 ARROAL FLAT WINDS JOCKEYS CHALLENGE BANDS

103120 ENBANTGENEY (193) R Hamon 6-11-10

120115 YEDBANTGENEY (193) R Hamon 6-11-10

120115 YEDBANTGENEY (3) (193 B Mickelon 3-11-6

120215 WEDBANTGENEY (3) (193 A Belley 5-11-6

12022 WEDBANTGENEY (3) (193 A Belley 5-11-6

12022 WEBLONG (60) (197) VIOLE 3-11-2

63310 WEBLONG (60) (197) VIOLE 3-11-1

54440 PEARL DAMNY (7) G L HOOVE 6-11-0

50000 SER ME(143) W Hole 4-10-15

534-540 MELZAO (113) O Elevanth 5-19-12

FORE TYPE Serious Seasotice 6, Renbantament 7, Milles 6 _C Manda (6) _J A McCarto _T Williams 5 __ Prost (5) 11 _ B CBSord (5) 1 _ T Quien 3 _ Q Quiffield 9

POLKESTONE

E39.30, CSF: £209.24, Tricast £1,347.78. Tric: £125.70. QUADPOT: £42.80. PLACEPOT: \$84.10. PONTEFRACT

FOLKESTONE

1-30 (St 1839-bit): 1, MAVAGO, W Ryan
(8-1); 2, Don Sabastian (13-8 fav); 3, 846hery The Kleiney (20-1): 13 ran. 13, 24 (6
hannon) Tota: FilloSt 22.30, C1.10, C3.70.
Dual P-210.40, CSP: 524.53, Tric: 2160.70.
2.00 (67 1839-bit): 1, 20 ran. N; 12. (7)
Sprains (4-1); 2, Seinett Cinoloo (11-4 fav); 3, Racchaelins (2-1): 12 ran. N; 12. (1)
Dunice) Tota: C4.50; C1.70, C1.50, C1.50, Dual
P-27.0.40, CSP: 51.87, Prior C12.10.
2.00 (67 1839-bit): 1, 2 ran. N; 12. (1)
Dunice) Tota: C4.50; C1.70, C1.50, C1.50, Dual
P-28.70, CSP: 51.87, Prior C12.10.
2.00 (67 1839-bit): 2, Seinettellung (14-1); 3, Seinettellung

O SPINNEY CONDITIONS STAKES IN C5,064
III-NO NIGHT CITY (31) (CD) Laby Herries 5-8-8
IN-500 WIELTON ARISINAL (3) M Channon 4-9-8
IN-500 CELECTIAL NEY (12) (D) M Johnston 5-9
IN-500 CELECTIAL NEY (12) (D) M Johnston 5-9
IN-500 CELECTIAL NICE (12) (D) M Johnston 6-9
IN-500 CELECTIAL (21) (C) (D) M Johnston 6-9
IN-500 CELECTIAL (21) (D) M Johnston 6-9
IN-500 FLYPSHIER (21) (D Lawfe 3-9-1)
IN-500 STREET KENDAR (13) (D) B Smint 4-9-9
IN-500 SMARSLAR (13) (D) B SMINT 4-9
IN-500 SMARSLAR (13) (D TOP FORM TIPS: Colesian Key 10, Class Ben B, Kight City 7 Bettings 6-4 Cetestot Key, 5-1 Clan Ben, 5-1 Night City, 5-1 Flytisher, Writish Areenal, 10-1 Mome Fortuna, Chickowicka, 25-1 Acmella, Street Kendra, Chel-Yo

S BIO RANG (57) M Sanoherd 9-0 S BIOTHERA (20) D Nurrey Smith 9-0 4 CORRETTELAN (20) R Hannon 9-0 5 ERIVINGON PROPER (16) A Javas 9-0 0 EURO SUPERSTAR (64) S Dov 9-0 4 BAJAK (20) Seed bin Survor 8-0 MONTPORT P Cole 9-0 0 GRTELINS (34) R Hannon 8-0 D SMITTELINS (34) R Hannon 8-0 J Fortune 19 ,S Senders 9 R Hills 11# T Oakon 13 Dane O'Hell W R Seeheler PERCY ISLE (21) 4 Storts 9-0 SWIFMS WEST P Cole 8-V
WESLEY'S LAD (22) J Noville 9-0
4 WESLEY'S LAD (22) J Noville 9-0
2 FLAGSSIND (20) W Hern 6-8
MISS BESLEY MISSER Wisseling 6-9
MISSER WISSER WISSER 6-9

TOP FORM TIPS: Planelin S. Purcy Isla 7, Carle

ŧ.C	IO rechard holder ha	MEDICAP 8f 04,190	
101	231103 LA PETITE FUSE	ME (31) (CD) R O'Suilhem 1-10-0	5 Mggs 3
66	SAME SPOTTED EACH	# (196) (D) R Hennon 3-9-13	Done O'Hell 4
03	1-06600 CRARLE SHIF		E 18
04		USE (18) (D) A Jarvis 3-6-15	Fortene 6
05		14) (BF) J Duniop 5-0-12	T Ocine 19*
	109200 SO M(TRAPTO (2		Pat Eddery 18
06		(D) D Haydn Jones 4-8-11	S Drewee 2
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		F (10) (D) 7 Naughton 4-8-9	S Service 7
06	COURSE STORES STORES	(31) (D) G L Moore 4-8-9	S Webworth 104
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11		(11) D Chappel 3-8-5	It Fenten 14#
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17		WE (10) (D) Gay Kalleray 8-8-6	
TB.		16) (D) J Speering 5-9-0	17 مجلوب ليرييسي
19		JOHT (47) L Cottrell 4-8-7	F Stree 20
20		(7) (CD) R Hodges 10-2-7	Amenda Sandaro (1
E.	STAIR INGS & LEGICAL		44

	622 MON BROCE (17) W Mair 8-7	
2	222211 DAVIS ROCK (15) (D) M Prescott 9-8	O Dulitaid S
=	266 COPPENSEECH (18) P Chapple-Hyam 9-2	R Havelin (3) 7
•	156 HIGHLAND PASE (176) P Burgoyne 9-2	D R MoCabe 13
3	021105 RUBERSTIOUS (18) (D) R Hernon 9-0	Dame O'NoW 12
?	CRITIC EAGER TO PLEASE (18) (D) (EF) Gay Kelleway 9-0	T Order 4
•	DISS22 DOWRY (15) (D) R Hannon 8-13	Pat Eddery 1
Ž.	400 EXPECTATION (46) P Nother 8-12	K Follow 2
	053023 THE WYANDOTTE BOY (45) R Hollostens 8-11	F Lysich (3) 10
•	30530 ROCKAROURETHECLOCK (17) P Evers 8-11	17 Epoc 11
0	054 MULTINE (24) M Johnston 6-19	M Roberts 6
_	De Militare (Se) at 10 military (T.1)	D Harrison 0
2	845400 STRAT'S OURST (32) D Arbuthon 8-10	S Droume 18
3	302302 WILL TO WOR (17) ? Marphy 6-7	Decise O'Shes 1
4	0600 WILD METTLE (48) J Fox 7-12	J Oxion 6*
•	8400 MEKERS DOUBLE (34) 6 Lends 7-11	Il Carliele 14
•	(18) (17) D STREET, RESOTTO (18) (17) D STREET DON'S 7-19	
7	(00 PRIORY CARDENS (34) J Bradley 7-10	
PR	City TIPS: Will To Win 8, Sinfore 7, Davis Abok 6	
	- C. Paris Coul. S.J. Down Z.J. Man Rosen, Facer Yo Places, 8-1	Rumbustions, Copperby

5.0	O PASTURE HAMDICAP 3YO IM 45 \$4,076	
-	30-0580 SKI ACADEMY (41) (C) P Chappie-Hysm 9-7	
- 1	8-20163 BEILLATOR (16) 6 Baiding 9-4	S Drouge 15
2	(2)-41 TART (35) R J Hougiton 9-5	
3	4528 PROMISER HOLET (101) (MF) 8 Dow 9-2	R Heates 9
4	453 Michigal Comp (Jan 1 / San) a note and re-	
- 5	43-5240 CLEMENTE (147) R HEDNOT 9-2	R #Bla 18
	IDSS MAYARED (6) 1 Deniop 9-2	
7	236804 TABFAR BOY (13) P Harris 8-2	0 illed 11
- 6	- AUTS STREETING SUM (26) B HDIS 8-11	K Pallen 6*
~	3240 CARALLUS (67) Lord Handrigdon 8-11	# ###s 17
10	44(01) \$W(257)625 BE(SELF (17) (D) M Ryan 8-9	IA Toka (8) 4
	532140 TROLBY (12) (D) P Cole 6-5	T 0-i= 1
11	ACCORD DALWHARME (24) J Hills B-5	M Heary (3) 3
12	COMP DATABLEM (Sel 1 100 L.C.	D Narrison 12
12	SPOTS4 BARAMOV (94) D Murray Smith 8-5	T Speaks 13
14	534000 MOA-TAB (48) P Walkeyn 8-3	C Batter &
15	DOOD FORWINGELE PLANE (17) Witemann 8-3	J Comma 10
16	P000-06 PERD RAJA (14) P Mitchell 8-5	J 4000 10
17	2-0604 DRAMATIC ACT (130) C Barnell 7-12	
18	040080 MAY KEEL MAYNEE (3) Mrs A King 7-10	2
TOP !	Ogst Tarth Tart S, Sweetness Herself 7, Manufact Sent	en

Beckings 9-2 Tart, 6-1 Miswared, 7-1 Bellator, 8-1 Premier Night, Switchness Hersel Trillby, 12-1 Tanden Boy, Clestente, 14-1 Caballus, Baranov Blinkered today for the first time: CHEPSTOW 3.30 Malik; 4.00 Nilgiri Hills; 4.30 Mike's Double; 5.00 Ski Academy. PLUMPTON 3.50 Drumstick; 4.20 Coolegale. WARWICK 2.10 Colour Counsellor.

Warwick (N.H.) with form

	أطأتنا عجبة	tors. Goings Pirtin (good to Sirss in pinces).	
	is brief	uits align horse'y years donnes days alone labout IIII vellag.	
.10	D ave	27 MALL JUVENIES HURCLE 270 Se C2,100	
1	7	DOCTOR CREEN (20) M Pipe 17-4	
2		COLOGE COUNSELLOR R Flower 10-12 J Osbaras w	
3		MAL HOO YAROOM W Hom 19-12	
	8	DROLAN WOLF (10) B Devolys 10-12	
	_	THE OREY WEAVER R Party 10-12	
		TOPAGLOW P Deltor 10-12T Eley	
7		EMERODERED A Pigues 10-7 Q Tegacy (3)	
	02	FLOOD'S FANCY (10) L Berret 10-7	
	203	MOW COULD-I (16) Mrs H Macabilly 10-7	
		I SAY DANCER Barrett 10-7 5 Wyens	
	F	KALAO TUA (180 J. Sensiyora 10-7 P Weis	

TOP FORM TIPE Doctor Green S, Kaino Tuti 7, Floor's Fancy 6 Setting: 19-11 Doctor Green, 11-4 Hai Hoo Yaropo, 7-2 Kalaç Tua. 16-1 Flood's Faricy, Colour Counteillo 25-1 Embroidenet, How Could-1, Topaglow

PORES QUEDE - DOCTOOL ORIGING: Made all, quickered improaching 2 u.u. essity, won by 12 from Chief Mouse (Easter 2xr II 18ty tot., Cd.). PLOODER BANKEY Interdery 3 u.t., enseed witner irom 2 u.t., no Increasion, 12 2nd of 12 behind Agdistin, with MOUAT WOLF (gave 5to) distant 5th (Worcester 2m hall, Gol-Fes). SULLAD TOLE Let II lead but, beautic approaching lest, busine vieten immeered and let lest in race won by Trusnoy, with MOVF COULD-1 tabled of inter of 5 festimes (Mongaion 2m hall, Gol-Fin).

12721-1 DESIGN JOCKEY (19) (23 M Pipe 4-11-12 06-5- ROC AGE (190) G Device 5-11-7 05-6-0 Highely CEMPRIDE (20) Mem 11-10-8 (HIP-0 CAMESTRELLI (23) W Mem 11-10-8 5-7- COMMANCIE STORE (197) W Mem 4-10-6 THE DESIGNIESS Mrs A 100 5-10-3 G Device 5-11-7 _______ [ING (20) Mass H Knight 4-11-0 __ TOP PORES TIPS: Indian Jookey 9, Mighly Charming 7

ROBBE GERTSE - MINERAL JOCKEY: Marie all, niver approaching 2 put, rep on wait, was by 25 from Saint

3.10 HATTON CONTINUE WORLD WOMEN CHARGO OF ALL STORES PLANS | U - BLITE OCCUPIENT WOMEN BOSTER CHARMS SEN |
| U - BLITE OCCUPIENCE (251) N Langard 7-11-0 ...
| 20059-F OLAMASSAITZ (10) P Delice 6-11-0 ...
| 3-4690 PCANTEL VA (11) I JAMES 7-11-0 ...
| 4 56-4155 PRESOGATIFIC (20) H Home 6-11-0 ...
| 5 55170-P ALISTITE COSTAC (15) N Procedul 7-10-0 ...
| PRID-7 LANKS TABL (6) P VROCHE 7-10-5 ... TOP FORM TSPS: leastelys 8, Larles Tall 6 Bettings 5-4 Conteins, 7-4 Prerogestve, 7-5 Germanghitz, Elta Governor, 35-1 Larin Tail, 55-1 Lornal.

ICASTELY AN Promisers, No. 16 as a 2 2-M11(9); ct. (Gd-Fo), PRESIDEALY ME Lee to 5th, weekened quickly 7th, 251 Fin of 12 behind Out Rending (Easter 2m3f his, Gd). AUSTITE LORDING Fulled up before 4 out behind The Gestoph major (Mariesi Resen Sn)11 ct, Gd). * Austra: Vasta Handway to classe whose 4 out, begins when fell next behind Coolines Hero (Tearton 2m ct., 3.40 CARLESLE & GOOGH NOVICE BURDLE 2m 34 C2,775

GPI-CALLENA STAR (556) R Alms 5-11-0 GPPID-3 CREARM (17) T Carbest 5-11-0 (GPPID-3 CREARM (17) T Carbest 5-11-0 (RESOT ROYALE Mark Campion 5-10-8 P6 LEAC RAME (97) J L Herris 4-10-6 564 ROSE CHIME (21) J L Herris 4-10-6 PORTE CUIDA: CALLEVA STAR Teled of when puled up before 3 out behind Glamour Game (Abustar Cultility bd).

CURRAIN Hed Up. shoot on Iron 2 and America. You set of 14 both March. Bases of the Curran and the Curran and Cur is Held up, stayed on from 2 and, never nearer, 139 3rd of 14 bhd Nordic Breeze (Utawater 2m hd.,

SEC CONTROL Chased leaders, one spice from 3 put, 161 4th of 6 behind Super Leat (Sedgefield 2mti hail, Go

4.10 WARNICK CASTLE HANDICAP CRASE 3- 21 CL253 1 1-11532 RYANGELICA (17) (D) M Pipe 6-12-6 2 (3173-2 Trans BRODGE (46) C Brooks 7-10-11 2 114539- CRETIC SELVER (161) Mrs S Smits 8-10-2 TOP PORM TIP: Time Brough & Bettings Evens Evengelica, 6-4 Time Enough, 11-2 Cellic Silver. FORM COMME - EVALUABLECA: Held up, headway Stin, outpased 5 and, stayed on again from 2 aut, 2% 2nd o 5 finishers behind General Crisis, (Chapatow Sm., Gd-Fm).
THER BIOCOGN Los headed 14th, every chance last, up autra, 178 2nd of 6 behind Herbert Buchaner (Homan Abbot 2mg/1 thy ch, Gd).
CELTO SELVER Buchan from 7th, falled oil when pulled up before 4 out behind Tourhal Prince (Chapatow

4.40 LORD LESCESTER HOSPITAL HANDSCAP BURDLE 24 (2,734 2025-1 NASELTON STAC (AL RAPERTALP BOSERIE 206 52,751
2025-1 NASELTON STAC (7) (0) M Pips 4-12-0
1- DAYTONA STACKI (774) (0) D fleech Devis 6-10-12
425-234 KALZARI (104) (0) A Cornal 11-10-0

utting: 1-3 Hamilton SRk, 7-2 Devions Beach, 8-1 Kalzeri

Plumpton (N.H.)

2.20 JOE & CO HARDEN HURDLE 24 11 E2,700 6 ALLEZ PABLO (15) R River 6-11-6 HARDY BREEZE D Grissof 5-11-5 N T Epon (7) + H Mano PH-FIS RACTIME SONG (12) J January 7-11-6 457-200 CADDY'S FORST (15) S Mallor 4-11-4

BOCKLANDS COURSERS & McMain 4-1:-4 - ORIGINATED ADAIN 7 Mills 4-71-4 - WAREEL & Dore 4-11-4 - ZADIA I PERSURY (2889) & Handerson 5-71-4 - REGULA PERSURY (2889) & Handerson 5-71-4 - REGULA PERSURY (2889) & Handerson 5-71-4 - REGULA PERSURY (2889) & Lyment 4-71-4 - Lyment

tegr 6-4 Wakeel, 9-4 Regal Puraut, 6-1 Greenwich Appin, 6-1 Gathy's First, 10-1 Docklands Courier Regime Song, 20-1 Zemalek, 25-7 ARaz Pablo, Hardy Breezs 2.50 JOE & CO SELUNG HANDICAP CHASE ION 11 110yin \$2,500 2.50 JOS & CO SELLING RANDICAP CHART for 11 110yris 12,9

1 5194/30- PRONTERS DAYS (385) (C) A MOON 10-11-13

1 94/30- BARKAN ROAD (185) Mags A Embiricos 12-11-5

2 P4/30- BARKAN ROAD (185) Mags A Embiricos 12-11-5

4 06/11-1- BR CLANDIC (185) (D) JONell 6-11-5

5 40/04-1 CAPO CASTANINE (10) Mags N Knight 7-11-4

5 46/04-1 CAPO CASTANINE (10) Mags N Knight 7-11-4

5 56/SPO- CPAL'S TRESPOT (26/04) Bradey 9-10-10

5 56/SPO- CPAL'S TRESPOT (26/04) Bradey 9-10-10

5 56/SPO- CPAL'S TRESPOT (26/04) Bradey 9-10-10

5 56/SPO- CPAL'S TRESPOT (26/04) Fractors 12-10-9

5 4/25-6 WOODLANDS GERMERS (19) (03) Prightant 11-10-1

10 56/SPO-3 THE WINST'R ASTADO (1901) J Pitch-Hoyes 11-10-3

10 10-55 SABIT EMBET (36) 0 Prodromou 6-10-0

12 ///PPR- TELF (22/01) P Cartes 16-10-0

(995: Dress Walk S 11 S D O'Sallivan 5-4 (B Bosse) 6 cm

3.20 KHENT FRANK CENTENARY HANDICAP HURBLE 2011 44 02.047 SU2- BADAME PRESIDENT (182) C Morlock 5-11-13 2797-03 WINSTLING EUCK (177) R Rove 6-11-8 22190- DUESHAMI (284) (09-1 Jeniolos 7-11-5 23065-0 BACEDONIAS (185) 8 Thorsor 6-11-2 \$305-0 MACEDORAS (143) G Thomas H-1-1-2 \$55431 RAY RYPER (86) (D) K Wingrow 4-11-0 \$4361-1 PAWLEY FLYRER (6) W Turner 7-10-13 \$400-0 DOC'S COAT (10) C Widoman 11-10-4 \$520-23 CREDAT COMPROLIES (13) J FRICH-Hey-POD-050 TRIBS BER (15) A Barrow 7-10-0

1995: Tal E Tion 8 11 10 | Laurence 4-1 (Miss CJ & Cares) 4 He Betting 2-1 Whiteling Buck, 7-2 Favilay Flyer, 9-2 Durshan, 5-1 Madame President, 10-1 Mecedones, Ray Bluer, 16-1 Credit Controller, 20-1 Poorty Cred 27-1 Tables Inc.

Great, No-1 Creat Controller, 30-1 Line & Code, 50-1 Hillian Ame.			
3.5	Ю шен	MAY MOTOR POLICIES AT LLOYDS HAMBICAP CHASE Son SI 63,662	
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1995: Paper Star 8 11 4 11 Powell 11-4 (III disagneridge) 4 rem Betting: 5-2 Zambez: Spirk, 11-4 Aline's An Ace, 9-2 Paper Star, 6-1 Black Cherch, Drumelick, 10-1 Pais Minstrat, 3-1 Be Surprised

4.20 a. n. denois Movice Humble 2m 41 52,385		
1	54-1	SUPREME STAR (36) P Hodger 5-11-5
ė	DATE-63	COOLEDALE (15) L Walls 10-10-12
3	P	POLO KIT (B) R O'Sutiven 5-10-12 Holley
7	04063/~	SELECTITE (638) W Turner 6-10-12
5	80-	MONT THYNE (211) M Roberts 4-10-11
•	AP31_00	SLIGHTLY SPECIAL (96) B Poarce 4-10-11
;	(19D-202	WANSTEAD (16) J Jenkins 4-10-11
•	nen_4	2UNO FLYER (15) A Moore 4-10-11

Destings 6-4 Supreme Star, 9-4 Wenstend, 5-1 Palo Kit, 8-1 Steeptite, 14-1 Zuno Phyer, Canlegale, 26-1 Stignaly Special, 33-1 Might Thyne

4.	50 JOE 4 CO NOVICE HAMDICAP MURBLE 2m 11 C2,448.	
1	060-1 MAZZINE (16) R Rows 8-12-0	J. Aspell (3)
2	1246- FARMER'S TERM (199) P Butter 4-11-2	
3	4-522) CANARY PALCON (12) R O'Suffvan 5-11-1	P Holley
4	04-6 WATER HAZARD (163 S Dos 4-11-0	
5	5F35. FIRST BESTANCE (180) D Grissell 5-10-8	IS Feeton
	(PSC/01- JACKSONS BAY (726) T Casey 6-10-5	E Marphy
7	1402664 DESTROYS BEST E (554) R Curits 5-10-8	D Morris
	19870P- PLUSPRED MAGE (157) J Poulton 5-10-0	T J Marphy
9	00F3- BOWLES PATROL (208) JR Upson 4-10-0	R Supple
10	HUFP2U- POLL OF TRECKS (186) J Bridger 8-10-0	L Havey
11	POP/PPHEET A BEAU (251) Mrs L Jewell 5-10-0	Sophie SSthell (B)
11 m	mars .	

1885: Cast The Line 5 11 9 J Ophorne 9-2 (C R Egerton) 8 ran

Head she wins

CRIQUETTE HEAD'S Blushing Gleam won yesterday's lorunner Prix de Saint-Cyr at Desville with John Gosden's Darling Flame and the William Jarvis-trained Midnight Blue ninth and tenth.



Blackburn sound out **Bebeto**

LACKBURN Rovers' desperation is such ering making an at-tempt to lure the Brazillan striker Bebeto back to

Europe.
Although Bebeto was a key
figure in Brazil's World Cup
triumph in 1994 he is, at 32, regarded as a diminishing

However, he is viewed in an altogether better light in East Lancashire, where the club who just 18 months ago won the Premiership now need a fast cure for their current

Bebeto is playing for Flamengo, having returned to Brazil in 1994 after a successful spell in Spain with Deportivo La Coruña Blackburn have made tentative in-quiries and would not baulk at an asking price of

Despite the millions of their wealthy benefactor Jack Walker, Rovers are marooned at the foot of the Premiership, the only professional club in England not to have won a league game this season.

Although the club's pursuit

of a man deemed worthy of succeeding Alan Shearer has been relentless, the manager Ray Harford has been unable to persuade anyone to fill the

Among those who have de-clined invitations to pick up fat salaries at Ewood Park are the German strikers Jürgen Klinsmann and Oliver Bierhoff and the Swedish international Martin Dahlin,

Royle has joined the chase for the Queens Park Rangers forward Trevor Sinclair, whose be granted today. "I have contacted Rangers although I Royle, who has told the QPR manager Stewart Houston that he is willing to offer a player-plus-money package involving either Vinny Sam-ways or Matt Jackson. Leeds United, Chelsea and

Tottenham have also ex-pressed interest in Sinclair, who is conservatively valued at £4.5 million.

Liverpool, who need an understudy for David James, are considering offering the Tranmere goalkeeper Eric Nixon an opportunity to return to the big stage at the age of 34. They are willing to pay about £100,000 for Nixon, Bradford City.

The Liverpool defender Rob back is to see a leading specialist about the serious back injury which has left him inactive for the past five



The hurt that Jack felt writ large

Paul Weaver with chapter and verse on the bitter family rift that seems certain to drive the Charlton brothers farther apart

the back of the room at London's Cafe Royal like one of the Republic of Ireland's infamous long balls: how difficult had be found it to write about his brother Bobby

that I could hardly write an autobiography without men-tioning him. But in the end I kept that bit as short as I could get away with. Liverpool have called in

longer receiving 10 per cent of much water. We clearly want to study all aspects of this:" lines, that would amount to Wanderers will name their new manager today. Dave million agreement with Merrington, sacked by South ampton at the end of last season, is the front runner to

Although League officials succeed Alan Smith. meeting, the fact that talks | Uruguavan coach Gregorio

Hibs' extension of caretaker

*HE first question flew to deprive Sir Bobby of his send a card. And he just said, at Jack Charlton from few remaining hairs. The two Til do it when I think the the back of the room at famous footballing brothers time is right. I'll run my life have not been particularly close for years but they have

in his new autobiography?

The big man took it in his stride. "I found it very, very difficult. I didn't want to do it. But then the people I was doing the book with explained

waterlogging at Anfield. "Tve no idea whether there The club's vice-chairman will be a reconciliation. We'll the hope of the League being and chief executive Peter | find out in the future. But I able to thrash out a compromise offer to put to the players' ing them in to find out why written here. He might ring union, which is unhappy at no the pitch was holding so me up and give me a bollock nearly burned herself. But now? My reaction seemed to acknowledgment."

never been farther apart than they are now. Upset by Bobby's reluc-

tance to visit their dying mother, Jack says in the book: "For six or seven years book: "For six or seven years before she died, my mother saw little if anything of our Robert. I don't know what it was between them but the rift affected the family terribly. I couldn't understand it. I'd sometimes ask my mother but she was very loth to talk about it.

"Eventually my mother went into a home. She was getting unsteady on her feet

Jack describes a phone call he received in Sardinia from over Italy in New York two over Italy in New Yo

ing, but I'm not bothered."

Still not a word from our RobIndeed, a quick shuftl at ert. I tried to get him to go call had surprised me. It £500,000 for his book (Partheese pages might be enough and see her, even phone her. Showed how distant the two of tridge Press, £16.99), the bighe slurped merrily.

the way I see it, and I'll do what I want to.' She desperately wanted him to go and see her. But he never did. He did turn up on the day for her funeral, and I was pleased about that."

Jack describes a phone call

ferent ways over the years . . . in a way Robert was never the double the sums paid to Ian Botham and George Graham. Yesterday he stood between same lad to me after Munich. He stopped smiling, a trait which continues to this day." two life-size cardboard cut-outs of himself, it looked a Jack was never the player his brother was but he was more than twice the manager.

with his pragmatism, straight talking and strong personal-ity. He was also more than simply a champion of welly-ball, as those who watched the Republic's World Cup win

stand up for when they score. They could win the title this

important. still not a word from our Rob | surprise him as much as his | Charlton has received only here because I've never

us had become how we had gest advance to a British grown apart and gone our dif sporting personality and

No, he did not like what he had been reading about Paul Gascoigne: "I was very disappointed. What he did at the Gleneagles Hotel is just not acceptable."

Yes, he was delighted with Newcastle: "I'm a Newcastle fan. They are the only team I

vear." No, he did not miss football: "Not one little bit. I will never work for another club on a seven-days a-week basis." A little strange this, because he never; has done. The shootin' and fishin' were always too

One reporter in the Cafe Royal wore a vast smile. "I'm

Critics round on Cantona, Wright

RIC CANTONA and Ian Wright remained targets of accusation from opposition players as contro-versies at St James' Park and Highbury simmered on past

the weekend.
Cantona, according to New-castle's defender Philippe Al-bert, should have been given a second yellow card after the Manchester United captain's lunge at Peter Beardsley late in the second half on Sunday. Cantona had already been booked for a shove on Albert himself, sending the the Belgian careering over the

'Albert said: "I think that if he [Cantona] looks at the game and is honest with him-self he will agree that he was really lucky to stay on the

field.
"He seemed to be upset with all the things going on around him, especially in the second half. I can understand that to a degree because I had the same sort of feelings when we were beaten by United at Wembley [in the Charity Shield]. The difference was that we didn't start trying to

intentionally breaking Steve Ogrizovic's nose as Covenrepeated his accusation that Wright acted deliberately in Saturday. The Arsenal striker said:

"What Ogrizovic says about me is out of order . . I did nothing wrong Look at the TV and you will see."

The referee took no action and TV replays gave no con-clusive proof of intent. But Ogrizovic, who last night de-cided not to lodge a complaint with the FA, remained adamant. 'I have slept on it and stand by what I said. I know what happened and so does he. It was deliberate... he kneed me in the face, off the

The Albert-Cantona dispute goes back to August's Charity Shield, when United beat Newcastle 4-0 at Wembley. Cantona was booked then for a similar foul, the Frenchman tipping Albert over like a bag of coal.

Now Albert, a French-speaking Belgian international, said: "Yes, we speak the same language and in the Charity Shield we had some problems. But on Sunday he had problems with some of our players. "We worked very hard, be-

cause that's the only way to win against United You have to compete for everything because if you don't win the 50-50 balls you don't have a chance.

Alan Shearer, however. moved to defuse another po-tential incident, admitting "it's not like me" when questioned about his smiling charge towards the visiting fans when celebrating Les Ferdinand's goal on Sunday. Despite the Ferdinand-Shearer combination's 18 goals so far — with Faustino Asprilla in reserve — Kevin Keegan may be adding an-

other striker to his Newcastle souad. He has taken Torquay's 24year-old forward Rodney Jack on a week's trial at St James'

League in new strike talks

HE Football League is to hold further discussions with the Professional Footballers' Association in an effort to resolve the threat of

The League announced yesterday that it will be "in com-munication shortly" with the PFA, after the strike issue was discussed in length at its regular monthly board meet-The possibility of a walkout

was postponed last weekend in [Under the former guide-

£2.5 million of the current £25 BSkyB for showing Nationwide League matches.

were saying little after their went on for several hours is being viewed as an encouraging sign.

IBERNIAN's decision to give Jocky Scott an ex-

tended run as caretaker man-

ager - whatever that means

to Alex Miller, has been fill-

ing in at the Edinburgh club

since the latter's resignation three weeks ago and was be-

mused when the chairman

Douglas Cromb made the an-

tomorrow in an attempt to clarify his position. He has made it known since Miller's

departure that he was a candi-

date for the job, but it appeared

he had been passed over when Hibs made a move for Mother-

Hibs were also reported to

Team talk

0891 33 77+

05

The independent news and reports service

Leicester City

Liverpool

Man, City

Miltwall

Man, United

Norwich City

Nottm. Forest

The Guardian Cinteractive

well's Alex McLeish.

Aston Villa

Birm. City

Blackburn

Brentford

Chelsea

Everton

Coventry City

Derby County

Bolton

nouncement yesterday. Scott will seek a meeting with the board of directors

poverty than parsimony. Scott, the former assistant

- is more closely related to

Patrick Glenn

The League's spokesman Chris Hull said: "The eague's board of directors met to discuss the PFA issue at some length. Although we are not in a position at this stage to divulge publicly the contents of the discussions, with the PFA shortly."

pitch consultants, after the postponement of Sunday's Merseyside derby because of waterlogging at Anfield.

 Cagliari have sacked their Perez. The Serie A club are expected to replace him with the veteran Carlo Mazzone.

fine and compensation order such as that which cost Celtic

£200,000 when they took Tommy Burns from Kilmar-

nock in similar circum-

stances. Hibs cannot afford such a bill.

defeated Rangers at Easter Road and drew 1-1 at Mother-

In Scott's first match Hibs

League quick to defend attack over racism

HE Football League was attacked yesterday at the launch of this year's Let's Kick Racism Out of Football campaign for failing to take racism

hooliganism or something

role leaves Scott bemused seriously.
"The Football League still do not recognise that this is a problem," said Herman Ouseley, the chair-man of the Commission for summer, made it known tha he was interested but the Motherwell directors refused Hibs permission to approach It is believed Cromb and his Racial Equality. "They want it dressed up as someboard pulled out for fear of a confrontation leading to the thing else, as a problem of

a specific problem." The Football League denies ignoring the cam-

We give the CRE an paign, unparalleled platform to promote this initiative." said the League spokesman Chris Hull "We have 72 clubs who all offer help in some capacity, from pro-gramme adverts to bill-boards, to specific anti-racists campaigns. We have watch 99 per cent of my promoted this campaign to football in the Nationwide all our clubs." The Arsenal striker Ian

mier League, but when you play away in Cup games against teams from the lower leagues it is still there, both from fans and

players."
The League again takes issue. "I find that personally very surprising." said Hull. 'I can't recall the last time I heard a racial chant at a football ground, and I League.

like that, but the targeting | Wright, who was at the | paign will this year move | duty. "It was a major probof black fans and black | launch, said: "The problem | the focus of its efforts lower | lem 20 years ago, 15 years players for abuse has been | is not so great in the Pre- | down at the grassroots of | ago," he said. "It's somethe game. It is also lobbying to close a loophole in chanting of racist abuse at football matches illegal only if groups of three or more are involved; such abuse by an individual is

not specifically illegal. The England coach Glenn Hoddle gave his backing yesterday and said he would discipline players who were found to be using League." racist abuse against oppo-Formed in 1993, the cambents on international

thing that we are getting close to solving, but we've got to stay on top of it and that's what we're doing." The Football Association, which has also backed the

campaign, was asked why there were so few black faces at the top table of English football administration. "That is something we have to address," said David Davies, the director of communications, "It would be hypocritical to say otherwise."

KTS LEAGUER Premier Divisions Aylesbury v Boreham Wood; St Albens v Dulwick (7.45). Yeowil v Yaading (7.45). First Divisions Aldershol Tn v Hampton: Usbridge v Bognor Regis Tn. Secsed Divisions Aldershol Tn v Hampton: Usbridge v Bognor Regis Tn. Secsed Divisions Dorking v Bracknell Tn; Hemel Hempstaad v Edware Tn; Horsham v Leighton Tn: Leatherhead v Eghan Tn, Wrvenhoe Tn v Bedrord Tn. Third Divisions E Thurrock Lind v Flackwell Heath; Wealdstone v Wingate & Finchley. OR HARTIENS LEAGUER Caps First-round, secsed leep Fisher Ath v Sudbury Tn, Midtand Divisions: Shepshed Dynamo v Moor Grn. NORTHERIN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUER Presidents Caps Secsed resure: Armitorpo Wet v Rossington Main, Arnold Tn v Beipor Tn. Borrowesh Vis v Glesnwell; Hucknall Tn v Ashried Use: Learender v Selby Tn; Maitby MW v Parkgate: N Ferriby Urd v Densby Uric; Pontefras Col v Hellant. Yorishira Amaburs v Hell Regra. PONTINS LEAGUE: Second Divisions Doncester v Certification (7.0). AVON INSURANCE COMEINATION: First Divisions Premiss Col v Hellant. The Anaheim I, Bosion S, Caigury S, Edmonton 3: Phoenis 1, Florida 1 (ci), Leading standings: Expters Conference North-cent Divisions 1, Heritori (W4, L, T T), GF17, GA12, Pt-S; 2, Monivasi (3-2-2-2-2-3-5); 3, Bosion (3-2-7-2-2-7-17); 3, Chiewa (2-1-3-19-16-7) Attentic Divisions 1, Florida (4-0-3-27-9-11); 2, 7ampa Bay (4-1-9-27-15-8); 3, Philadelphia (4-4-19-21-8) Western Conference Compani Divisions 1, Dallas (7-10-26-17-14); 2, Chicago (5-3-0-19-15-10); 3, Si Louis (4-4-9-2-19-8); Pacific Divisions 1, Colorado (4-3-7-34-20-9); 2, Caligary (4-4-0-21-19-6); 3, Edmonton (4-4-0-22-26-6). (Swe) 1,493, 18. A Berasategui (Sp) 1,489; 19. C Pioline (Fr) 1,488; 20. M Stich (Ger) 1,480. Alson 25. T Henman (GB); 86. G Germans miss Results point over World Soccer Baseball

Cup says FA

contact with the players after

2006 if you look at the current

state of the dressing rooms

cials within a fortnight to dis-

Roy Keane, out for a month with a leg injury, will return for Manchester United tomor-

row in the Coca-Cola Cup tie

cuss England's bid.

high enough?

and facilities."

well last Saturday despite the goalkeeper, Jim Leighton, being sent off. "I'll have to talk to the di-Mark Ryan THE FA has accused its Ger-

rectors to find out exactly man rivals of "missing the what this means," said Scott point" in the contest to host the 2006 World Cup. know I'm going back into work tomorrow." Wolfgang Niersbach claimed England lacked the facilities

Scott may be allowed to continue until Christmas, have a stand-by shortlist though the way things are which included Jim Duffy of shaping he could become the Dundee. McLeish, whose con-tract at Fir Park ends next | football history.

Sheffield United 15

Sheffield Wed. 14

Southhampton 20

Tottenham Hot. 97

Stoke City

Sunderland

Wimbledon

Celtic

Rangers

02

01

29

18

13

30

27

26

37

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First Division:
Postponed: Ashton Uni v Leigh.
PONTRYS LEAGUE: Premaier Division:
Stoke 2. Man Und D Postponedt Liverpoo v Loods. First Division: Hudderstield 2 Aston Villa S. Woverhampton 2. Preston 5. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Luten 2. West Ham 1.

Golf

LEADSNG SCIENT WORLD RANKEWES: 1. G Norman (Aust) 10.30pts av; 2. C Montgomerio (GB) 8.80; 3. E Es (SA) 8.75; 4. N Falcio (GB) 8.80; 8. E Es (SA) 8.75; 4. N Falcio (GB) 8.86; 5. F Coupties (US) 8.48; 5. T Lohman (US) 8.35; 7. M Czeki (Japan) 7.96; 9. C Pavin (US) 7.74; 9. P Mickelson (US) 7.70. 10. Davis Love III (IS) 7.22; 11. M O'Mears (US) 7.08; 12. N Price (ZIm) 5.24; 13 C Elangsin (Aus) 6.06; 14. S Stricker (US) 5.72; 15. B Langer (Ger) 5.85; 15. V Singh (Fiji) 6.36; 17. L Roberts (US) 5.56, 19. M Auctumber (US) 5.29; 19. D David (US) 5.25; 20. S Hotch (US) 5.24. Alses 24. I Woosnam (Wales) 4.56; 41, S Torrance (Scot) 3.45; 68, 8 Lane (Engl 2.98; 70. A Coltart (Scot) 2.24; 68, P McGinley (Ira) 1.84; 59, P Horrington (Ira) 1.74; 97. L Westwood (Engl 1.74; The German FA spokesman to stage another major soccer tournament. He said: "For Euro 96, the English built a mixed interview zone in Wembley's tunnel. Is that the way ahead? And only about 100 journalists could have ley firs 1 84: S5. P. Harrington (tre) 1.74: 97. L. WESTROOT (Engl. 1.76: WOMERT'S OF DEEDS OF MERSTS. 1. L. Davies (Engl. 170.880: 2. H. Artindsson (Swe) 127.804; 3. T. Schwagon (Engl. 129.90); 278.185: 4. A Nicholas (Engl. 129.90); 58.976: 5. L. Hackney (Engl. 129.505); 6. J. Mortey (Engl. 129.502.54; 7. M-L. de Lorenzi (Fr) 125.0728; 8. C. H. Koch (Swe) 120.718; 9. T. Facher (Goe) 127.885: 10, A Screnstam (Swe) 124.500. matches. Are those standards "You could not play a World Cup at Wembley in

Tennis

But Alec McGivan, leading England's campaign for the World Cup, retorted: "It is rather missing the point to criticise facilities at Wembley STUTTGART OPINE First rounds & Bostach (Fr) to A Radulescu (Ger) 6-7.
7-6. 8-4: J Samerink (Noth) bt H Dreetman (Ger) 6-1. 7-5. 8 Gustafnson (Swe) bt J Stoltarberg (Aus) 6-4. 6-4: T Weedbridge (Aus) bt J Accest (C2) 4-6. 8-1. 8-4. 8-5.
5 Utilbrach (C2) bt A Corretia (Sp) 6-3. 6-1: 5 Edbarg (Swe) bt T Herman (GB) 6-4. 8-2. when the World Cup in question is a full 10 years away. By that time there will be a new stadium with new facilities - possibly even two - in England. Naturally we are basing our bid on the facilities in place by that year." McGivan will meet Fifa offi-

6 Universes (LT) or A Corresia (ap) 6-a.

6-1; S. Edbarg (Swe) bt T. Hersman (GB)

8-4, 8-2.

LUXDBeBOUSDER OPERIC FETS youngs A

Olsza (Poll bt L. Neitend (Let) 3-a. 6-2, 6-4;

J. Wilcomer (Jan) bt 6-4. Garcia; (30) 8-4.

6-1, N. Tanzisal (Pr) bt L. Meskin (Gaorgia)

6-0, 6-3, P. Begerow (Gqr) bt M. Orenans.

(Noth) 6-3. 6-2. B. Passine (Asa) bt E. Mekarova (Rus) 6-3. 4-6, 7-6; K. Rabsentieva

(Stovak) bt R. Moyen (Lux) 8-2. 6-2. N. Massives (Slovak) bt A Coetzer (SA) 7-6, 6-3.

LEADING ATP RABOUNIZES 1. P. Sampras

(US) 4-677pb; 2. M. Chang (US) 3,744; 3, T.

Muster (Aut) 3,555; 4, Y. Karletnicov (Rus)

3,253; 5. G. Ivanizario (Cro) 3,165; 6. B.

Becker (Ger) 3,060; 7. R. Krajock (Neth)

2,410, 8, W. Fereira (SA) 2,403; 9, A Agassi

(US) 1,232; 10, M. Rus (Chile) 2,203; 11, T.

Martin (US) 1,905; 12, T. Enqvist (Swe)

1,895; 13, M. Washington (US) 1,813; 14, A.

Costa (Sp) 1,796; 15, J. Courier (US) 1,884;

16, F. Mantilla (Sp) 1,564; 17, S. Edberg

WORLD SERVES Basketball

NATIONAL LEAGUE First Divisions Bury & Bolton 99, Cardin 94, Covenby 84, Westminster 66: Guildhord 82, Brudon 59; Nottingham 69, Oxford 72 Ware 99, Solent 60: Phymouth 95, Mid Sussex 66; Stockton 19, Liverpool 77, Sepand Burislass Scumiamouth 63, Chessington 57; Slough Scumiamouth 63, Chessington 57; Slough 79. Liverpool 77. Second Bitrisloss Bournemouth 63. Chessington 67; Slough 62. Flintshire 52; Solituli 94. Thames val-ley 78; South Wales 81. Sheffleid 67: Aston 94. Northampion 72. Derby 100, Swindon 76: South Bank 73, London 100, Wossess First Divisions Barling & Degenham 44, Thames Valley 61; Ipswint 72, Northamp-ton 59; London 51. Sheffled 77, Northamp-ham 80, Spelthome 82; Rhondde 77, Fatrissoden 42. Crystal Palace 40, Birming-ham 80. Second Divisions Chelmstord 63. Tyne & Ware 69: Donosater 61, Leicester 70: Solent 45, Manchester 57.

Cricket

PREST 1857: Shelldespers: Zimbabwe 375 (9 Flower 110, P Strang 168no: Shahid Nazir 5-53) and 241-7 (D Houghton 65: Saqlain Mushtan 4-75). Pahistan 553 (Wa-sim Akram 257no, Saqlain Mushtan 79. Salim Melik 52. Saede Anwar 51: Strang 5-213). Match drawn. TITAN CUP, Bangelove): Australia 215-7 (M Taylor 105; Prased 3-47). India 216-6 (S Tendulus: 89; Fleming 2-39). India won by two wickets.

American Football

American Football

NFL: Carolina 19, New Orleans 7: Dellas
32, Atlanta 28: Indianapolis 9, New England 27: Philadelphia 35, Marri 28: Washington 37, NY Glants 27: Arizona 13, Tampa Bay 9: Deriver 45, Ballmore 34; Housson 23, Pinsburgh 13, NY Jess 22, Buffallo 26; San Francisco 25, Cincinnad 21; St. Louis 17, Jacksonville 14, Leading standings, American Conference: Eastern Distillators 1, Burglei (WS. L.2. PFIDA, PAIT); 2. Indianapolis (5-2-124-114); 3, Marri (4-3-189-121), Construit Butstainen 1, Houston [5-2-174-163); 2. Pittaburgh (5-2-144-103); 3, Jacksonville (3-5-151-153). Wastern Divisions 1, Dennet Conference: Eastern Divisions 1, Wasting-100-163; 3. Dallas (4-3-136-107). Central Divisions 1, Green Bay (6-1-27-22); 2, Minasot (5-2-127-19); 3. Dellas (4-3-136-107). Central Divisions 1, Green Bay (6-1-27-22); 2, Minasots (5-2-127-19); 3. Dellas (5-2-136-107). Central (6-2-124). Western Divisions 1, Caroling (5-2-124). Western Divisions 1, Caroling (5-2-126); 3. St. Louis (2-6-105-165).

ICO HOCKEY

ice Hockey

Road Running

Snooker

Fixtures

Soccer COCA-COLA CUP: Third round: Black-burn v Stockport (7.45); Botton v Chelses (7.45); Gillingham v Coventry (7.45); Ips-wich v Crysal Palace (7.45); Por Vale v Oxford Utd (7.45); Wimbledon v Luton (7.45); York v Leicessie (7.45); SCOTTESH COCA-COLA CUP; Sensi-finat: Dunfermine v Rappers (7.45)

GRAND PRIX (Bournemouth). Second restant T Jones (Eng) bi S Storny (Eng) 5-1; A Rabideoux (Can) bi G Wildrison (Eng) 5-3; J Wattzers (Then) bi P McPhilips (Scot) 5-2; B Newderson (Scot) bi . Birch (Eng) 5-3; B Secution (Scot) bi . King (Eng) 5-3; A therrittem (Eng) bi F O'Srien (Iro) 5-4.

(7-30 unless stated)

final: Dunfermine v Rangers (7.45). ULFA U-18 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALI-UEFA U-18 CHAMPIORERIP QUALI-PRIER Rep of Instant of Denmark.

UNIBOND LEAGUE Presider Divisions
Blyth Spartans of Accingion Stanley, Cherrey v Winstard Und, Coleryn Bay v Lancaster: Frickley v Spennymoor: Guiseley v
Hyda Und. Leek Th v Runcom; Marine v
Samber Bridge, Pirst Divisione Congletion
Th v Matiock Th: Curzon Ashton v Fixton,
Eastwood Th v Worksop Th: Girbarnage
Th v Gretna, Radcliffe Bor v Harrogate To:
Stocksbridge PS v Wulley Bay: Warrington Th v Atherion LB: Workington v

Rugby League ice Hockey RUROPEAN LEAGUE Manche An Capitals (4.30)

Donington Park is to host the British Motorcycle Grand Prix for the 11th consecutive year next summer but the event has been moved from its traditional July date.

to August 17.

a Liznelli said yosterday that they would appeal against a 60-day ban given to hanker lizen Jones who was sent off for fighting during a European Cup match against the French side Pau last Saburday. It was the first time that Jones had been sent off and Lianelli, who won the match si-15, are hoping that video evidence will help be case. In a bad-tempered match two Pau players were also dismissed. The lianter Nicoles Bacque is suspended for 30 days for punching while the scrum-half Frederic Torostian is banned for 60 days for stamping. Will Green, the Waspe prophas been brought into the England training squad for tomorrow's session at Marlow to replace the injured Coventry forward Rob Hardwick.

Pools Forecast

ECOND DIVISION

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SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION

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American Football

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he reveals how it felt to find himself more of an interloper than a fly on the wall as Jack Rowell put the team through their paces Roses and grunting wigwams

March 16 Ireland played England at Twickenham and were beaten soundly enough, and for the first time

enough, and for the first time in 50 years I found myself insisting "We wasn't robbed".

To be sure I had to admit shamefacedly to ghostly ancestors across the water that I had been rather depending first this once? On 31 am (just this once) on an em-phatic English victory, for not only would the Five Nations Championship ensure a boastful gloss to the cover of a book but, well, I had got round to becoming individually very fond of the mixed bag of coves and self-obsessed top-drawer athletes who pulled on the white shirts of England.

And on St Patrick's eve

they duly prevailed. They had needed to in the 1996 internaneeded in the 1995 interna-tional season. Rugby union, suddenly professional, was vi-ciously barging and buffeting itself on all sides. It was as turbulent as it was traumatic. Doubly so for the captain Will Carling, whose life had been topsy-turvied by the press in less than 12 months between his calling the RFU committee a "bunch of old farts" and his short marriage being laid bare after the separated Prin-cess of Wales did, or did not

The books thev read were of the Gulf War variety; their films the most red-blooded

walk into his life, or rather

his health club. Spending a season closeted with Carling's England and with one of the country's most accomplished young photographers, Jon Nicholson, being allowed full and intimate access to their collec-tive psyche was — if one likes that sort of thing — a rare opportunity for a sportswriter, even a privilege.

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It was, too, a regular embarrassment for one steeped in the presumption that the sacristy exclusive to those taking part in the "sacrifice". Fly on the wall is one thing but downright interloper is

As a result, perhaps, I found myself too regularly first trip away was to Paris. It using the telescope the wrong way round. When every fibre of concentration was demanded to take in, and take down, the sharp and narrow focus, my mind was being distracted by the broad, wide sweep of generalities. And

For instance, moments before the gladiators, 15 frenziedly stoked up as one, were sent quaking into the arena. Carling might call for a last communal grunting wigwam of a bellowing bear-hug, and — not knowing where to look

wrapped, cellophaned bunch of red roses under the corner of the dressing-room bench at which the mighty Ben Clark, which the mighty sen Clark, now greased and grunting in the bonded confraternity in the middle of the floor, had just lately been sitting and lacing up his boots.

This single bunch of roses is delivered from a florist in Kent to big Ben precisely half an hour before every England match. They are sent by two (he presumes) young women. He has never met them. Clarke is a versatile back-row; if he plays at No. 6 he gets six red roses, if he is No. 7, seven appear, and at No. 8, eight. And after each match he car-

ries the bouquet home.
Carling had his spirit dented at regular intervals by Fleet Street's gossip colum-nists, and his body likewise took a battering. In the first and last matches he was stretchered off with what seemed, at the time, particularly bad injuries. When he was carried in, semi-conscious, during the first match one was privy to the worried huddle of medics craning over him in the medical centre alongside Twickenham's dressing rooms. But in-stead of concentrating as a concerned reporter should, I found myself distracted and examining and itemising in my notebook exactly what the team's physiotherapist Kevin Murphy carried in his bag of tricks. Through the months of this

filluminating project one was similarly dragged hither and you up diverting alleyways and away from the main sporting purpose in hand. Sometimes, at team meetings, the pin-drop silences were rapt and Trappist and pro-longed — and Mike Catt, the former South African, would always attend them shoeless I forgot to ask why. The dress-ing rooms did not reek, as I had imagined and the lore foretold, of embrocation and wintergreen but of black boot polish. Boot-cleaning obviously soothes nerves. This must have been the very smell young Charles Dickens breathed in his Victorian blacking factory.

The players were, almost to a man, faddists and picky over food. The books they read in the muscle-tweaking., fretting longueurs were mostly of the SAS, Gulf War, top-of-the-pops variety; the films they chose for R&R on Thursday nights at the Richmond cinema always the most red-bloodedly violent. Apt, I suppose. Mind you, the project was nearly stillborn. The team's

ned the Whole so I was aboard for the ride except the manager Jack Rowell. As we waited for our bags at the carousel at Charles de Gaulle (interna-tional rugby players are great humpers and heavers of individual and collective gear), the genial coach Les Cusworth mentioned the time of his backs' meeting for me to attend and said it would be finished in good time for Rowell's general exhortation to the troops.

Rowell overheard. He craned down at me from his and feeling sheepish — I craned down at me from his found myself switching off lock-forward's height, his totally and staring at the un-opened and expensively gift-ing and his great nil-nil spec-



All in the game . . . Mark Regan's heavily strapped left leg comes under close scrutiny

fact end that's final, end of

discussion."

End, therefore, of project,
QED. Carling was to be a
boon and a refreshing ally
throughout the season, and

warmly invited — no, ordered — me to attend. "Team meet-ing at 8.30. Be there."

From then on he put up with me, and just as often he provided rich insights he need not have confided. Such was typical of Rowell. His style is to be the enigma. It the dressing room and I would unquestionably still be granted the agreed access there as keeper of the log.

Within hours Rowell had gives him the licence to blow sergeant-major. Up-front, hot or cold, keep "the opposition" on its toes as well as, at the same time, his own team.

Which might make for the long-term plan, or devil-take—the-hindmost sabre-ratiler.

Within hours Rowell had secret of his success; it did, My season in the inner.

angelic and understanding saint and comrade. Or as jo-vial whipper-in or ruthless slagger-off. Calming genius or wild and fanciful nut. Benign

tacles glinting. "He might be at yours but he's not reporting on mine," he said with finality. "Team meetings are no place for outsiders with Biro, and notebook, that's a ling at 8.30. Be there."

Wrapped an avuncular arm for sure, when he was club sanctum with a good bunch of coach at the triumphant Bath. When pressed, each player wert, and courtesy of the enigmatic, un-pindownable Rowell sanctum with a good bunch of coach at the triumphant Bath. When pressed, each player wert, and courtesy of the enigmatic, un-pindownable Rowell turn, as ogre and hard nut or will be intriguing to see how was rewarding all right. It will be intriguing to see how the house that Jack is building weathers the storms ahead — and whether, as his bespoke and hand-picked team perform for him, we will be any closer to discovering what makes him tick.

Band of Brothers, by Frank
Keating with the England players, with photographs by Jon Nicholson, is published by Michael Joseph (120).

PHOTOGRAPH: JON NICHOLSON

SPORTS NEWS 15

Sport in brief

Rookie Jones stuns Yankees

THE New York Yankees took the field to the strains of the Superman theme tune and the roars of 57,000 fans who had not seen their team compete in a World Series for 15 years. They left it in stunned silence, writes Ian Katz in New York.

The team who once dominated baseball so thoroughly that the Fall Classic was virtually considered a regular-season fixture were roundly thrashed by an Atlanta Braves side riding on the strong shoulders of an unknown 19-year-old.

Andruw Jones, who began this season playing in the lowest of the minor leagues, hit home runs in his first two visits to the plate on Sunday night, propelling his team to a 12-1 victory in the first match of the best-of-seven series. It was the heaviest defeat the Yankees had suffered in their long World Series

defeat the Yankees had suffered in their long World Series history. Jones, who did not stop grinning through three hours of Yankee agony, eclipsed the great Mickey Mantle to become the youngest player ever to hit a home run in a World Series

Chinese woman banned

TONG FEIMING, the world No. 29 from China, has been banned from table tennis's British League this season for representing the London club Joola Linda Farrow while not registered, writes Richard Jago. Tong, the outstanding woman player in the league in recent seasons, has had ber straight-games victories over the Scottish international Ian Stokes, the Irish international Jonathan Cowan and the former Scottish international Richard Yule deleted from the record of the match against Drumchapel Glasgow and the Scottish club has been awarded a 7-6 win.

Perelini signs new Saints deal

APOLLO PERELINI, who amerged as one of the most impressive props in the business during rugby league's first Super League season, has signed a new four-year deal with St Helens with two years of his current contract to run, writes Paul Fitzpatrick. The deal could help tie the 27-year-old to Saints for the rest of his

Another St Helens forward, Adam Fogerty, also 27, may be on the move soon, possibly to Wigan. He is out of contract at the end of the year, and Bedford and Saracens rugby union clubs are reported to be interested in the former Halifax prop, who has also been a professional boxer and actor.

Mendez on Bath's wanted list

BATH have made an offer to Federico Mendez, the Argentina hooker, who would become the first major overseas signing at the Recreation Ground. England's double-winners have made an indifferent start to the season and face an early exit from the European Cup after last weekend's defeat at Pontypridd. The 24-year-old Mendez, currently playing Currie Cup rugby for Natal, would beef up a front five who have been found wanting this

Mendez, who gained notoriety six years ago when as a schoolboy he floored Paul Ackford with a punch in Argentina's defeat by England at Twickenham, has refused to play against the Spring-boks next month and tour England with the Pumas in December

lespite being sejected in their 36-man squad. The Tredegar flanker Tony Edwards is in hospital after almost having an ear torn off in a stamping incident in last Saturday's Welsh Third Division match against Merthyr, whose lock Keith Snape was sent off after a flare-up in a game Merthyr won 14–10. Tredegar officials meet tonight to decide whether to take action.

Barrichello joins Stewart

THE former Jordan driver Rubens Barrichello will be confirmed today in Sao Paulo as the second driver for Jackie Stewart's new Formula One team, writes Alan Henry. The 24-year-old Brazilian, who finished eighth in this year's world championship, has signed a three-year deal to drive for Stewart alongside Denmark's

Zimbabwe dig in for draw

ZIMBABWE dug their beels in to force a draw with Pakistan in the opening Test in Sheikhupura yesterday. The tourists, with a first-innings deficit of 178, struggled to 177 for five before Andy Flower and Guy Whitial batted for 204 and 130 minutes, scoring 18

and 32 respectively, to nudge Zimbabwe to 241 for seven.
They were helped by the absence of Wasim Akram in the final ssion after the pace bowler crashed into an advertising board bile chasing a bell and limped off the pitch. Wasim was mad Man of the Match for his 257 not out on Sunday. The second Test starts in Faisalabad on Thursday.

The Titan Cup one-day match between Australia and India in Bangalore yesterday was stopped for 20 minutes when fans threw plastic bottles on to the pitch in protest at the dismissal of Mohammad Azharuddin. India, replying to Australia's 215 for seven, were 43 for three after 16 overs when Azharuddin was adjudged lbw to Jason Gillespie. The hosts nevertheless made 216 for eight to win by two wickets.

Wattana out of the doldrums

JAMES WATTANA reaffirmed his innate class with consecutive centuries of 131 and 130 and reached the last 16 of the Grand Prix in Bournemouth, but was still plagued by the inconsistency that has sent him down the rankings in the past two seasons, urites Clive Everton. The Thai defeated Glasgow's Paul McPhillips 5-2 with breaks that beat John Parrott's 128 as the best of this year's

American Football

Redskins keep Giants at bay

Mark Tran in New York

ASHINGTON Red-skins were word per-fect as the first-half drama unfolded at RFK Stadium on Sunday, but they got their lines crossed after the interval as the New York Giants rewrote the script.

After going in 28-0 down, the visitors dominated the second half but the Redskins hung on at 31-21 for their sixth victory of the season to remain top of the NFC East. Whereas the Giants began like the strugglers they are, Washington looked like a

team on the up after a long slump and everything clicked for them from the opening drive, which produced the first of three touchdowns by Terry Allen, maintaining the form that gained him 1,000 yards in rushing last year. The veteran receiver Henry Ellard followed up his spec-tacular display against the New England Patriots by

New England Patriots by catching all five passes in the first half for 119 yards, including a splendid 20-yard effort on the left sideline.

To cap it all, a pass from Dave Brown, the Giants quarterback, skipped out of Thomas Lewis's hands straight to Darell Green, the speedster in the Washington defence. He raced down the right sideline, easily avoiding Brown's desparate lunge, to Brown's desperate lunge, to score a 68-yard touchdown. dinator Bruce Coslet.

Giants, their defence stiffened and Brown now homing in on his receivers, played like the team who had won five in a

Brown threw touchdown passes to Lewis and Chris Calloway, and Tyrone Wheat-ley rushed for a touchdown to cut Washington's lead to

seven points.

The Redskins offence responded with a time-consuming drive and Scott Blanton's 45-yard field goal put the game beyond New York's reach.

At Texas Stadium, the Dallas Cowboys scraped to a 32-28 win over the Atlanta Falcons.

The Falcons were leading 28-25 in the closing minutes but Troy Aikman found Kelvin Martin, who broke through the middle for the game-winning touchdown.

There were close shaves too for the Buffalo Bills and the

San Francisco 49ers. The Bills beat the Jets 25-22 with a late field goal, consigning the New Yorkers to their eighth defeat, while the 49ers eighth defeat, while the 49ers overcame a 21-0 deficit to beat the Cincinnati Bengals.

The Bengals' response yesterday was to sack Dave Shula, the youngest coach in the NFL and the first to lose his job this coach in the NFL and the first to lose his job this season. Shula, 37, had a 19-52 record in fust over four seasons with the club and lost 50

games faster than any coach in league history. He has been replaced by the offensive coor-

Tiger on the Bear's trail Storm brewing for Berlin

David Davies on the disqualification that. helped brilliant rookie to second US Tour win

and breath-taking good first prize.

fortune of Tiger Woods brought him his second win as a professional on Sunday, pertains to the club's grip and only eight weeks after he gave up his amateur status.
Woods won the \$1.2 million

(£760,000) Walt Disney World Classic in Orlando, Florida with an amazing 21 under par, but only after Taylor Smith had equalled that total and then been disqualified. Smith, a rookie on the tour. had been reported to the com-

mittee by his playing partner Lennie Clements, who sus-pected that Smith's putter was illegal. That happened on the 9th green of the final round; Smith immediately appealed and was allowed to play on while the governing body, the United States Golf Association (USGA), was

Smith then holed an eight-Smith then noted an eightfoot birdie putt on the last
hole to get into what he
thought would be a play-off
with Woods, only to hear of
his disqualification. The decision cost him at least \$129,600,

the amount of the second prize, and possibly \$216,000, which is what Woods won.

Woods now moves up to 23rd in the money list after only seven tournaments, hav-ing made \$734,794, a quite un-precedented achievement, and he will be able to play in this week's US Tour Champithis week's US Tour Champion Out of order ... Smith's putter woods.

HE extraordinary skills | prize-fund and its \$540,000

says, in part: "The grip shall be straight and plain in form, shall extend to the end of the shaft and shall not be moulded for any part of the hands." Smith's putter was slightly longer than usual and had two separate grips which were not equal in diameter. The ruling from a distance seems harsh but Rule 4 also seems narsh but killed 4 and states that "a player in doubt as to the conformity of a club" should consult, in Smith's case, the USGA. Any manu-facturer also has that option.

Woods played the final round of the Disney tournament with Payne Stewart,



winner of two majors, and if Stewart hit every green in regulation then the young Tiger missed only one. His occasionally over-exuberant putting brought three three-putts, including one from only 10 feet at the 17th, but

only Smith, and he temporar-ily, could match the winning The start Woods has made to his career is amazing but not quite unprecedented. Al-though the prodigy has won his two events in an exceed ingly short space of time, Jose-Maria Olazabal also won two full European Tour events in his first year as a professional and so did Phil Mickelson in his first full year. The latter American turned professional in June of 1992, having already won a US Tour event as an amateur in 1991; he was second in his third professional start and in

1998 won twice and finished 22nd on the money list. But to find someone who truly exceeded what Woods has done it is necessary to go back to 1962, the year that Jack Nicklaus turned professional. He had three wins that year, the first of them the US Open, no less, in which he beat Arnold Palmer in a playoff. He finished third on the money list, and in 1963 he won the US Masters and the US PGA among other things. By 1967 he had his first career County Slem and he has since Grand Slam and he has since acquired two more, a for-midable target and one not yet worth thinking about,

Ice Hockey

Vic Batcheider

ANCHESTER STORM go into this after-noon's European Hockey League game against the Berlin Capitals at the Nynex Arena in a better frame of mind than for their two previous EHL matches. "We have more belief that we can compete a lot more seri-ously than in the last couple of games and possibly even sneak a result," their coach John Lawless said yesterday. The Storm lost both those games. In the first, at home to

Since then the Storm have

won three of their four Super-league games. And on Sunday night they recovered from two down after 10 minutes to beat Nottingham Panthers 6-2 in front of a Superleague re-cord crowd of 10,935 at the Nynex Arena -- an atten-dance that is unlikely to be repeated today, because the match begins at 4.30pm to suit German television, which holds rights to all EHL games.

"Nottingham are an estab-lished team, contenders throughout the Nineties, and

ish champions Lulea but still | Lawless said of a recovery lost 10-6. | sparked by three goals in the first five minutes of the second period by Hilton Rug-gles, Eric Calder and Martin Smith after Paul Adey and Derek Laxdal had put the Panthers ahead.

Shawn Byram, Brad Zavisha and Craig Woodcroft scored three more as the Panthers the weekend; they had lost 6-3 at home to Ayr on Saturday. Meanwhile Bracknell Bees, 5-1 winners in Sheffield on Saturday, crashed 7-0 at home to Newcastle Cobras on

Sunday. The Cobras' most recent signing Justin Duber-man scored twice in the vic-tory which took Newcastle to Finland's TPS Turku last we're two-nothing down. We recent signing Justin Dubermonth, they went down 6-0; might have folded, but our two weeks ago in Sweden guys battled so hard in the they became the first visiting corners and for 50-50 pucks. side in six years to score six | We were winning those little one point ahead of Cardiff, goals at the home of the Swedbattles and that paid off." | Sheffield and Manchester.

Tennis

Tone down the tantrums, ruling body tells Hingis

Association is to ask Martina Hingis to banish the on-court tantrums marring the Swiss teenager's impressively early impact Sunday in her defeat by Jana Novotna she disputed calls and once hit the net fiercely with the racket. The WTA's European operations director Georgina on the state of impressively early impact on the senior game.

In her European Indoor semi-final against Anke Huber in Zurich on Satur-day she slammed her racket into the court more than half a dozen times and kicked it twice: the umpire Mike Morrissey warned bad habits. We talk to them | 58rd to 56th in the ATP list

Clark said: "If it keeps on we would be concerned, but I think it's something we can deal with now. We'll be talking to her.
"Sometimes players come

up through the ranks not knowing they developed her for racket abuse. On and explain that they rep- released yesterday.

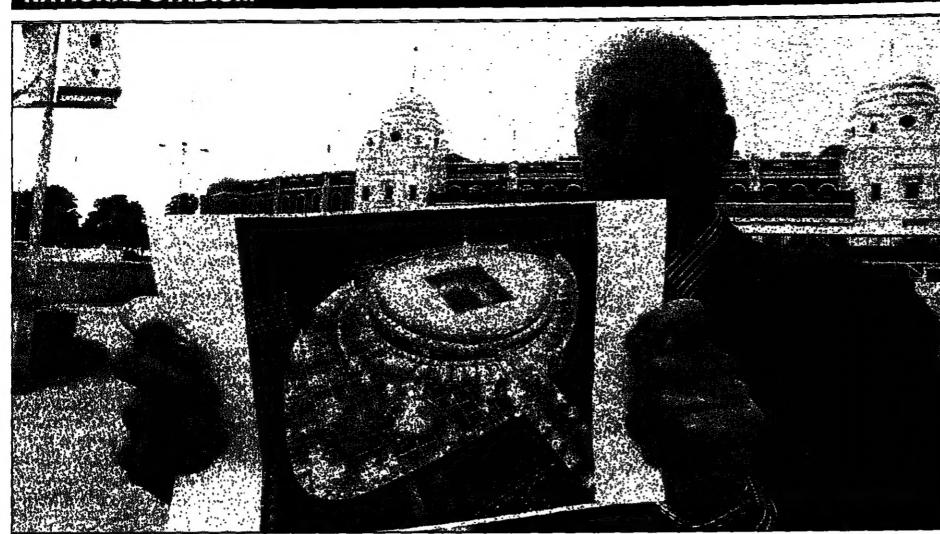
resent and reflect women's Hingis dismisses the outbursts as simply self-moti-vational. "When I throw my racket it helps me con-

centrate," she said. Tim Henman, the British No. 1, has risen one place to 25, his highest world ranking, after reaching the Czech Indoor Open semi-finals last week. But Greg Rusedski dropped from Suffering with The Bard of Bridgend, page 13 Hoddle launches anti-racist drive, page 14

Desperate Blackburn woo Bebeto, page 14 Life with the Carling crowd, page 15

SportsGuardian

NATIONAL STADIUM



sign and designer . . . Sir Norman Foster outside Wembley Stadium with his vision of the future, a modern arena that would be fit for the 21st century

FA boost for Wembley bid

Manchester refuses to give up despite losing ground. John Duncan reports

EMBLEY last successful bidder should have right effectively won the battle to house the new the FA and the Football football authorities said they favoured the present site rather than Manchester as the venue for the £200 million. Lottery-funded project.

There was controversy over the decision, however, with claims that the Manchester deal was financially better for the game to the tune of up to £10 million a year. And there are reports that the Wembley deal involves paying the sta dium operator - Wembley plc -- 25 million a year; the same function is said to be budgeted in the Manchester bid at £500,000.

"It was a requirement of

Wembley plc's relationship to the new stadium and the League's ability to invest in

and we would make that decision in the light of an effective proposal and further League, as event holders and in consultation with the Preclarity about the nature of the project," said a Premier Wembley as their preferred venue for the national sta-That statement offers a litile hope to Manchester, which dium." Athletics and rugby league also backed Wembley

resterday refused to accep the FA's announcement as defeat. "Definitely not," But soccer's commitment to said Howard Bernstein, its Wembley is still not 100 per cent. "Significant issues remain to be resolved to the leader, on behalf of the city "At the end of the day w

believe the significant and de-cisive influence is the Sports Council. We are happy to see Sports Council," said the FA. "Those issues are legal, finan-cial and commercial," added our proposals discussed and scrutinised and will be subits chief executive Graham mitting our bid as planned." Kelly. The "issues" are believed to Formal bids must be received at the Sports Council

Sheep? (10)

Down

cut (7)

player (8)

22 Fish on the same lines (4) 23 Capital drama about love-24 With Reagan interrupting,

see the other side at once!

embracing the landlady (7)

1 Baba the Prophet climbing

5 Wit's hesitation in time (6)

6 Decapitates fish with one

9 Satisfied debts may be

open to dispute (11)

15 Ivor's out to become a star

6 Notice animal sanctuary in

Chesterton's old oath (8)

17 One sage receiving order

from another (7)

18 Minor sea-god by

headquarters by November 6

Premier League doubts about | and a decision will be made in | of access to a | Wembley plc's relationship to | December, but it would be different the new stadium and the | ficult for the Council to | Council's chief ignore the wishes of all the tenants of the new stadium.
The FA will stage England internationals and Cup finals
and the Football League the
Coca-Cola Cup final and divisional play-offs. And the Pre-

Derek Casey "As a distributor of Lottery our objectives and statutory obligations have been met and that the bidder will be eli-

Significant issues remain to be resolved to the satisfaction of football before final submission

However, the final choice is indeed for the Sports Council to make and it says its be unaffected by the FA's announcement. "Our key the public gets the benefit

forward for Wembley, which must show that Lottery money will not merely benefit the private company that owns the current stadium

Wembley pic. Wembley's drawing board is already heaving, however. The architect Sir Norman Foster has been hired to develop plans for a stadium only the Twin Towers remaining from the Wembley

The towers will be moved brick by brick to allow the pitch to be moved by 90

will help overcome the prob-lem of shadows and giare from the sun. Council's chief executive

Seating will be in a "wave" form rather than a straight bowl and the external walls of the stadium will be capable of acting as a giant projection screen to encourage specta-tors to gather in a vast new square positioned outside the

ambitious five-storey under ground car park beneath the square, making the immediate surroundings of the sta-

dium traffic free. Inside the stadium, two thirds of seats will have arm rests, every seat will be unobstructed, and there will be no athletics track for football covered by 5,000 pitchside seats. A new Wembley stadium railway station will be serviced by Eurostar, the new Heathrow link and direct

Whatever happens, Manchester will get a stadium of some sort; the Sports Council is already committed to funding the construction of a Commonwealth stadium at Eastlands, where £30 million of government money has been spent preparing the site.

Kinnear not so crazy after all these years



Richard Williams

when Wimbledon were lying third in the Pre-"I'm not finished yet." But seven defeats in a row pushed the manager's words back down his throat, and the season ended with the team in a lacklustre 14th place.

Today, riding a wave of seven wins in a row, Wimble don are again in third place. And the decisive urgency of their performance in victory against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Saturday aroused a desire to put money on the possibility that next year the Dons will celebrate their 20th anniversary as a professional football club by representing England in Europe.

Some would say that they began that role on Saturday, when they outfought, outplayed and outscored Chelsea's team of Eurostars with a squad including 13 Eng-

lishmen (if you count Vinnie. Jones as English, that is). Back in 1968, the post-Heysel ban denied Wimbledor a crack at the Cup Winners' Cup after they had beaten Liverpool at Wembiey. But the prospect of the Dons ven-turing abroad is even more compelling now, since it might provide us with an answer to the question asked whenever English league teams fall in European club competitions after trying to match their opponents for patience and guile: bow would we get on if

Foreigner and concentrated on our traditional virtues of peed, strength and requent that the question is a cliche. Yet no English man-ager in the post-Heysel era ha elt like answering it, thanks

to a thoroughly respectable de sire to make our football more modern and flexible by improving the skills and actical awareness of our players. But for all Wimbledon's reputation as the hod-carriers of the Premiership, a few minutes of talking tactics with Kinnear could convince anyone that few squads in England are more flexible than

Any 10-year-old could see that Kinnear's team beat Chelsea primarily by getting the

Ekoku, their rangy forwards.
"We felt that Chelsea's de-fence liked to push up, which would leave space behind. them for us to exploit," he said yesterday. "We wanted to

terrorise them with our pace And we did." But there were subtler reasons for the victory, pro-viding evidence of the sort of attention to detail which suggests that Kinnear might make an interesting contribuplans to prote

propped at la

tion to a European campaign On Saturday, for instance, he told Robbie Earle that Roberto di Matteo, his oppo-site number in midfield; tracking back after him when Earle moved forward. Earle opened the scoring and was praised for his all-round showing against the Italian

Kinnear also decided that Frank Leboeur's forays up the middle could be neutralised by encouraging him to pass the ball harmlessly wide. Driven to distraction by Wimbledon's forwards, the renchman could take no relief in attacking. missal made Kinnear the

second-longest serving man-ager in the Premiership, after Alex Farguson, and his experience is beginning to how. He does his homework and spoke of how tactical switches had neutralised Kinkladze and Juninho last season. "If you give George Weeh space," he said, perhap with his eyes on the future, The's going to run at you and go past people and probably score. But if you have some-one close to him all the time he's going to have to pass the

OT Kinnear knows way to skin a rabbit, and he told me a particularly interesting trick that Wimbledon had used a couple

'If they've got a player who's not a good passer, ye make sure he sees a lot of the ball. You mark everyone else, so that he becomes their spare man. They keep giving him the ball and he keeps giving it away. Against Derby we put Gayle on Stimac to encourage the other centre-back. Carbon to come out with the ball, because we felt that his distribution wasn't as devastating as Stimac's. He was launching

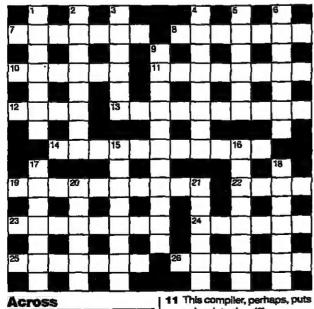
it straight back to us." Last year's slump coincided with injuries to half a dozen key players. "We've learnt from that," Kinnear said. "The continuity's good and the confidence has grown." As Liverpool, who have won the European Cup four times, might attest, a confident Wimbledon would frighten

Guardian Crossword No 40,790

vesterday.

satisfaction of football before

a final submission goes to the



7 Inflated Brit to work over American (7)

8 Look into public transport and working

garment (7)

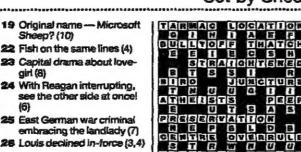
10 Incentive for accountant to be put back on the bishop's

ing a measure of spirit (4) 13 Backward soldiers surround

solver into river (8) 12 Breathing apparatus supply

14 Servicemen trapping bird, maybe 17's Idol (6,5)

Set by Shed



Neptune's foot for the

round the country (7) 20 Cold little fish eating giant impounding King Lear's turtie's head (6) 21 Refills with first-class drink

4 Wolfram (tungsten) initially affected by parasite (8)

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David Lacey reports as the FA considers the wayward star's international future AUL GASCOICNE's ing again this week. "Glenn England career may will also be having further

England career may well be living on borrowed time. In fact it may have already passed the point of no return, after last week's allegations of wife-beating which coincided with his latest Champions League sending-off with Rangers.
Glenn Hoddle, the England

coach, and Keith Wiseman, the ew chairman of the Football Association, discussed him yesterday. On Thursday week Hoddle will announce his squad for the World Cup quali-fier in Georgia, It will be surprising if Gascoigne is in it.
David Davies, the FA's director of public affairs, conirmed last night that Hoddle and Wiseman would be meet-

discussions with Paul and Walter Smith, the Rangers manager." Davies added.

Last Friday Gascolgne apologised for his sending-off

against Ajax 48 hours earlier — he had kicked Winston Bo garde — but did not comment on reports that he had as saulted his wife, Sheryl, during an argument at the Glen eagles Hotel the previous

Whereas Smith was furious with Gascolgne's red card against Ajax, the FA is more concerned both with the Gleneagles incident and the heavy drinking that allegedly preceded it. Shortly before England beat

Poland at Wembley 12 days ago, and on the eve of a largely sympathetic study of largely sympathene study of the 29-year-old Gascoigne in a Channel 4 Cutting Edge pro-gramme, Hoddle publicly backed the player. "I know what's been said about him, including his drinking" said including his drinking," said the England coach, "but I'm not interested in that."

Now Hoddle may have to revise his priorities. The Gascoigne he described as a family man with "a good attitude and a caring quality" who could go on playing until he was 35 has been overtaken by the latest in a series of drinkrelated incidents.

Just over a month ago, after the admission by Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain, that he was an alcoholic, the FA announced that it was step ping up breath tests on players. To some, retaining Gas

the people to have a one 2 one with

Gascoigne, capped 45 times by England, did not play well against the Poles and his stamina remains in question. Even if Sunday lunch at Gleneagles had passed without in-cident there would have been a case for not starting him against Georgia in Tbilisi on November 9. His omission would also serve as a final

public warning.
What may help persuade Hoddle is the prospect of Eng-land's training headquarters at Bisham Abbey being besieged by the media if Gas-coigne is still in the squad. If he feels this might upset his other players he will surely decide England need Georgia,

not Gazza, on their minds.
At least that would give all parties a three-month breathers. To some, retaining Gas-coigne in the England squad lialy at Wembley in February.

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Hoddle ready to drop Gascoigne with Holy seed and left a was the

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